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Yeltsin Retreats, But Adversaries Step Up Pressure

By Fred Hiatt

MOSCOW — President Boris N. Yeltsin backed away Wednesday from his threat to impose "special rule," but the apparent attempt at compromise failed to dissuade the parliament from taking another step toward impeaching him. The president made public a decree calling for nationwide votes of confidence in his rule, on a new constitution and on new election laws. But, despite his dramatic televised appeal to the nation Saturday, he did not impose any kind of emergency rule or override the rights of the legislature. Nonetheless, Russia's working parliament, the Supreme Soviet, voted Friday to convene an emergency session of the Congress of People's Deputies, the nation's highest legislature, which will consider Mr. Yeltsin's impeachment. If the Congress votes to remove Mr. Yeltsin from office, the nation may find itself with two competing governments, as Mr. Yeltsin has indicated he would not respect such a vote. Mr. Yeltsin has indicated he would not respect such a vote. Mr. Yeltsin has indicated he would not respect such a vote. Mr. Yeltsin has indicated he would not respect such a vote.

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Wild-Card Element Persists in the Ranks

By Steven Erlanger

MOSCOW — Both of Russia's leading branches of government say they want to avoid involving the army in their dispute, and military leaders say they are happy to oblige. Humiliated, orphaned and starved for funds by the collapse of the Soviet Union, the military is an uncertain instrument even in the hands of its commanders. Military experts, Russian analysts and Western diplomats say that if President Boris N. Yeltsin or the Russian parliament tried to use the army in this essentially political struggle, it was likely to split, raising the prospects of civil strife and prolonged chaos. The heads of the three so-called "power ministries" — defense, interior and security — have been stressing their neutrality at every opportunity. Defense Minister Pavel S. Grachev and Security Minister Viktor P. Baranikov, have vowed to resist any intervention in Russia's political crisis and not to become pawns in a political contest. After repeating, at Sunday's emergency session of parliament, his vow to hold to constitutional principles of political neutrality, General Grachev was tongue-lashed by the speaker of parliament, Russian L. Khasbulatov, Mr. Yeltsin's main rival. "Please, no more such speeches — toothless, vague and noncommittal," Mr. Khasbulatov said. "It's not clear who you support." But that was General Grachev's point. No matter what the sympathies of the military and security leaders, which are widely regarded as backing Mr. Yeltsin, who appointed the men, there is little assurance that troops would do what they were told, especially

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The Old War Machine Won't Be Gearing Up

Washington Post Service

MOSCOW — A new and unfriendly Russian government could threaten the West militarily and strategically, but no regime could reconstitute the Soviet military machine anytime soon, according to Russian analysts and officials. Russia, suffering from a crushing economic depression, no longer has the ability to project force at sea, launch a lightning attack into Western Europe or wage wars in Third World countries far from home, experts said. It has, however, preserved the ability to destroy the United States with nuclear weapons. The political crisis threatening the pro-Western government of President Boris N. Yeltsin has raised alarms in the West about the return of a hostile regime that might restart the Cold War, forcing the United States to increase its defense budget again. On Monday, Secretary of State Warren M. Christopher described the stakes here as "enormous," and North Atlantic Treaty Organization officials warned Tuesday in Brussels that peaceful cooperation between Russia and the West was in jeopardy. Officials here agreed that a new government might quickly and fundamentally alter Russia's foreign policy, jeopardizing arms reduction, accelerating competition in arms sales and endangering cooperation in the Balkans, the Middle East and North Korea. Instability and further weakening of central control could heighten

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One of 46 Serbs on a bus Wednesday awaiting evacuation from Tuzla, Bosnia, as a militiaman stood guard.

Pretoria Says It Made 6 Nuclear Bombs but Destroyed Them All Program Ended in '89 and Designs Were Shredded, de Klerk Asserts

By Bill Keller

CAPE TOWN — During a 15-year clandestine program that has been one of the nuclear era's most closely guarded secrets, South Africa succeeded in building six crude atomic bombs and was at work on a seventh when it decided to dismantle its arsenal in 1989, President Frederik W. de Klerk said Wednesday. Mr. de Klerk told Parliament that the program was launched in 1974 because of the apartheid government's sense of isolation and its fear of Communist designs in the region. After he took office in 1989, Mr. de Klerk said, the devices were destroyed, the plant for making highly enriched uranium was decommissioned, the uranium fuel was downgraded to make it unsuitable for weapons, and the blueprints were shredded. South Africa became the first and only country to destroy its nuclear arsenal, Mr. de Klerk said, because the Cold War was waning and the withdrawal of Cuban troops from nearby Angola eased the sense of menace. In South Africa and abroad, many suspect the government was also motivated by a desire to prevent its atomic weapons from someday falling into the hands of a black government. In his speech to Parliament — the first admission that South Africa had an atomic weapons program — Mr. de Klerk said South Africa never tested the bombs and never intended to use them. Instead, its strategy was that if South Africa came under attack, it would detonate a test device to demonstrate its capability and threaten to use the weapon unless the United States came to its aid. Mr. de Klerk withheld a related piece of news: Under heavy pressure from the United States, the South African cabinet agreed Wednesday to scrap its plans to build a new long-range solid-fuel rocket, according to a diplomat who was informed of the decision. The United States argued that the missile, ostensibly intended only for launching satellites into orbit, might have been put to military use or sold to other countries that could use it to deliver warheads.

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Serbian Shelling Halts UN Airlift of Wounded in Bosnia

By John F. Burns

SARAJEVO, Bosnia-Herzegovina — A United Nations operation to evacuate sick and wounded Muslims from the besieged town of Srebrenica aboard helicopters was seriously averted Wednesday as Serbian nationalist troops broke cease-fire guarantees and repeatedly bombarded the landing zone at Srebrenica with artillery fire. Two Muslim civilians were killed in the attacks, and two Canadian soldiers serving with a UN detachment in Srebrenica were wounded, one of them critically. Two Sea King helicopters from a Royal Navy ship in the Adriatic Sea were sent in to evacuate the two Canadians despite the risk of renewed attacks. The British craft, too, came under fire while on the ground, but escaped without being hit. "I can't think of any more humanitarian mission than we were undertaking, trying to get seriously ill and wounded people to hospital," Brigadier Cordy-Simpson said in an interview with the BBC from Kiseljak, the town 40 kilometers (25 miles) north of Sarajevo that serves as the main base for the UN military command. He vowed that the helicopter evacuations would be resumed, and implied that force would be used against Serbian artillery units if necessary. "We are trying to undertake a humanitarian mission, and that is precisely what we are going to do," he said. The attempt to evacuate more than 300 sick and wounded people from Srebrenica was suspended after the attack, which occurred shortly after three Puma helicopters of the French Navy had taken off from the landing field in the besieged town with 21 wounded people on stretchers. The airport at Tuzla, from which helicopters took off on the mission, also came under Serbian artillery fire during the operation, but UN officials said there were no injuries and no major damage there. The French helicopters, and the two British craft that followed them to Srebrenica later to evacuate the Canadian soldiers, landed safely in Tuzla, an industrial city about 80 kilometers northwest of Srebrenica that is controlled by the Muslim-led Bosnian government. The Serbian attacks came at a crucial diplomatic and military juncture in the war, and seemed likely to further complicate efforts to bring a peaceful end to fighting that has devastated the former Yugoslav republic, killing an estimated 150,000 to 200,000 people, most of them Muslims, and making another 1.6 million people homeless. In particular, the day's events raised new questions about the reliability of undertakings given by the Serbian nationalist leaders, political and military, who launched the war last March and have pledged repeatedly since to end their attacks and seek a political solution. There were these related developments Wednesday, news agencies reported. For the third consecutive day, the UN Security Council canceled a meeting on Wednesday to adopt a resolution authorizing the use of force to uphold an exclusion zone over Bosnia-Herzegovina. A UN spokesman said private consultations on the resolution and a public meeting that was to have followed had both been canceled. A council source said the cancellation was at the request of Russia, which has had repeated difficulties with the resolution, directed mainly at violations of the ban by Serbian aircraft. Russia is the traditional protector of the Serbs and its reservations about the

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Bernard Tapie, center, urban affairs minister, after a last cabinet meeting Wednesday with François Mitterrand, who, an aide says, will not quit. Page 6.

What Drives Patten in Hong Kong

By Kevin Murphy

HONG KONG — With 150 years of rule behind it and only 39 months to go, Britain has decided to pick a fight with China over greater democracy in Hong Kong. China, pro-Beijing forces and many Hong Kong businessmen are asking: "Why now?" They question the motives driving Hong Kong's governor, Chris Patten, and his plans to widen the electoral base for 1995 elections to the colony's Legislative Council. The British-Chinese dispute showed no signs of letting up on Wednesday, with Beijing increasing its efforts to derail Mr. Patten's plan. The ruling presidium of the National People's Congress moved to speed up discussion of plans to establish a working committee to prepare for governing Hong Kong. The threatening move, seen as the first step toward establishing an alternative to Hong Kong's existing administration, was somewhat neutralized by reports that Jiang Zemin, head of the Communist Party, made conciliatory comments on the dispute to National People's Congress delegates from Hong Kong and Macao. Mr. Jiang's moderate stance came a day after Shanghai's Liberation Daily joined those who question the motives driving British policy and called for Mr. Patten's resignation. A signed commentary in the newspaper said that when it comes to democracy in Hong Kong, Britain lacks credibility. "It is just like a prostitute, who having sold her body all her life, suddenly gives up business to begin preaching chastity and telling people to value their bodies like jade," said the news-

NEWS ANALYSIS

widen the electoral base for 1995 elections to the colony's Legislative Council.

At Last, Daimler to Get a Wall Street Address

By Brandon Mitchener

FRANKFURT — Ending a long dispute, Daimler-Benz AG, Germany's biggest corporation, said Wednesday that it had reached a landmark compromise with the Securities and Exchange Commission that will make it the first German company to issue shares in the United States. The announcement was heralded as a breakthrough not only for Daimler-Benz, which desperately needs to raise cash to compensate for sluggish earnings, but also for the rest of corporate Germany, which has been seeking wider international recognition. "I would concur with the company's view that there has been a compromise on both sides," said Richard C. Breeden, chairman of the Securities and Exchange Commission, in a telephone interview. He declined to give details but said that "we've tried to be flexible within the framework of the basic principle that public investors are entitled to a certain level of transparency concerning financial results and conditions." "When the fully story is out, I think Daimler will deserve an awful lot of credit," he added. "It's always hard for someone to go first and I hope this will make it possible for others to follow." The SEC long thwarted the attempts of German companies to issue shares in the United States, arguing that German accounting standards, particularly the common practice of hiding sometimes substantial reserves, presented a danger to small investors. Such investors make up a much larger share of shareholders in the United States than in Germany. Daimler-Benz said its deal with the SEC "comes closer to American investors' expectations of greater transparency and clarity in accounting," and disclosed that its 1992 profit statement, to be published April 6, would include more than 4 billion Deutsche marks (\$2.45 billion) in extraordinary income previously kept in hidden reserves. The company did not say how soon a share issue might come, noting that Gerhard Liener, its chief financial officer, must still iron out a few remaining issues with the SEC next week in New York. Nevertheless, Daimler-Benz shares jumped on the news, climbing 1.8 per-

cent in Frankfurt to 605.50 DM and rising as high as 617.30 DM, up 3.8 percent, in trading after hours. Despite the fact that it boasts one of the world's strongest economies, Germany has a relatively weak shareholding culture, with most of its biggest companies owned in large part by other big companies, banks and institutions. Almost 70 percent of Daimler-Benz shares, for example, are in the hands of large institutions. In 1992, only 496 German companies were listed on the Frankfurt Stock Exchange, Germany's biggest, compared with almost 2,000 on the New York Stock Exchange. In fact, there were almost as many foreign shares

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Kiosk Cairo Hands Suspect to U.S. Business/Finance Japan hit back at U.S. trade accusations. Page 9. The EC offered support to Russian reformers. Page 9. South Korea plans to keep a lid on prices. Page 13. Crusade Weather Page 20.

At Last, Daimler to Get a Wall Street Address Exchange Commission, in a telephone interview. He declined to give details but said that "we've tried to be flexible within the framework of the basic principle that public investors are entitled to a certain level of transparency concerning financial results and conditions." "When the fully story is out, I think Daimler will deserve an awful lot of credit," he added. "It's always hard for someone to go first and I hope this will make it possible for others to follow." The SEC long thwarted the attempts of German companies to issue shares in the United States, arguing that German accounting standards, particularly the common practice of hiding sometimes substantial reserves, presented a danger to small investors. Such investors make up a much larger share of shareholders in the United States than in Germany. Daimler-Benz said its deal with the SEC "comes closer to American investors' expectations of greater transparency and clarity in accounting," and disclosed that its 1992 profit statement, to be published April 6, would include more than 4 billion Deutsche marks (\$2.45 billion) in extraordinary income previously kept in hidden reserves. The company did not say how soon a share issue might come, noting that Gerhard Liener, its chief financial officer, must still iron out a few remaining issues with the SEC next week in New York. Nevertheless, Daimler-Benz shares jumped on the news, climbing 1.8 per-

What Drives Patten in Hong Kong By Kevin Murphy HONG KONG — With 150 years of rule behind it and only 39 months to go, Britain has decided to pick a fight with China over greater democracy in Hong Kong. China, pro-Beijing forces and many Hong Kong businessmen are asking: "Why now?" They question the motives driving Hong Kong's governor, Chris Patten, and his plans to widen the electoral base for 1995 elections to the colony's Legislative Council. The British-Chinese dispute showed no signs of letting up on Wednesday, with Beijing increasing its efforts to derail Mr. Patten's plan. The ruling presidium of the National People's Congress moved to speed up discussion of plans to establish a working committee to prepare for governing Hong Kong. The threatening move, seen as the first step toward establishing an alternative to Hong Kong's existing administration, was somewhat neutralized by reports that Jiang Zemin, head of the Communist Party, made conciliatory comments on the dispute to National People's Congress delegates from Hong Kong and Macao. Mr. Jiang's moderate stance came a day after Shanghai's Liberation Daily joined those who question the motives driving British policy and called for Mr. Patten's resignation. A signed commentary in the newspaper said that when it comes to democracy in Hong Kong, Britain lacks credibility. "It is just like a prostitute, who having sold her body all her life, suddenly gives up business to begin preaching chastity and telling people to value their bodies like jade," said the news-

Bosnian Serb's Newest Rebuff Discourages Mediators

By Paul Lewis
New York Times Service

UNITED NATIONS — The long floundering Bosnian peace negotiations have suffered a serious setback as the leader of the Bosnian Serbs again refused to accept the peace plan drawn up by international mediators.

Lord Owen, the European Community envoy, said the leader, Radovan Karadzic, was leaving New York, but the Bosnian Serb later denied this and said he was staying on and had not walked out of the talks.

Sounding more discouraged than usual, Lord Owen said that Mr. Karadzic was

"very far away" from signing any peace agreement. Lord Owen added that he saw "no chance of his coming round" to a different position.

Lord Owen, a former British foreign secretary, said Tuesday it was "very clear" that Mr. Karadzic still sought the creation of an independent state for the Bosnian Serbs on lands held or conquered by Serbian forces in the last year.

The focus of the negotiations has been a plan drawn up by Lord Owen and the UN-appointed negotiator, Cyrus R. Vance, that would divide Bosnia-Herzegovina into 10 autonomous provinces, reducing Serbian lands from the 70 percent they now hold to 43 percent.

Lord Owen also attributed much of the responsibility for the deadlock in the talks to the Bosnian president, Alija Izetbegovic, who has boycotted the proposed negotiating session this week and resisted the mediators' appeal to endorse the Vance-Owen plan.

The strategy of the mediators had been to get Mr. Izetbegovic's support for the plan and then muster international pressure on Mr. Karadzic to follow suit. But the mediators never got the chance to do so.

The Croats have accepted the peace plan in its entirety, but Serbs and Muslims are still refusing to sign the map the mediators have drawn up setting out the actual provincial boundaries in a new Bosnia-Herzegovina.

On Tuesday, Russia finally agreed to support a new Security Council resolution authorizing warplanes of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization to shoot down aircraft violating the Security Council's ban on flying over Bosnia-Herzegovina, despite the risk that this could further disrupt international efforts to help its suffering citizens, diplomats said.

The agreement, worked out between Foreign Minister Andrei V. Kozhevnikov of Russia, who is visiting, and Secretary of State Warren M. Christopher in Washington, provided for the resolution to be voted on quickly. But it will not take effect for

seven days, and actual enforcement of the no-flight zone will only start after a further seven-day grace period.

The council was also expected to issue a statement Wednesday that would take account of several other Russian concerns that prevented the enforcement resolution from being adopted Monday as originally planned.

The statement endorses the Bosnian peace plan prepared by Mr. Vance and Lord Owen, urges all parties to sign it, promises that the Security Council will send a heavily armed force to ensure that its provisions are respected once they do, and offers the Serbs some easing of trade sanctions if they make peace.

WORLD BRIEFS

Another Fiat Executive Faces Arrest

MILAN (Bloomberg) — Italian judges have issued an arrest warrant for Riccardo Ruggeri, the managing director of Fiat SpA's agricultural equipment division New Holland, RAI television reported. He has been charged with illegal campaign finance, the same charge that resulted in the arrest last month of Fiat's finance director. A Fiat spokesman said Mr. Ruggeri was in London, where New Holland is based. He said the company had no comment except to say that the executive's lawyer had contacted the Italian judges. Mr. Ruggeri has been head of the division since 1991. Scores of Italian business and government leaders have been arrested or investigated in an ongoing crackdown on corruption.

EC to Consider Norway's Application

BRUSSELS (AP) — The EC Commission recommended Wednesday that the European Community open membership talks with Norway, four months after the country applied to join. It issued a positive report on Norway's chances to assume EC membership duties, paving the way for talks to start April 5 so Norway can join in 1995. It would do so along with Austria, Finland and Sweden, which have been negotiating their entry into the EC since Feb. 1. Newcomers can enter the EC only after the 1992 Treaty on European Union has been ratified by all 12 members. Two countries have yet to ratify the treaty. Denmark will put it to a second referendum May 18. Britain is letting its ratification hinge on the outcome of that vote.

North Korea Ends State of 'Semiar'

TOKYO (AP) — North Korea announced Wednesday that it was ending the state of "semiar" it declared during joint U.S.-South Korean military exercises. The official press agency KCNA said that Kim Jong Il, supreme commander of the armed forces, had issued a communique ending the alert, although it said the country would "maintain a high revolutionary alertness." The joint military exercises ended March 19. Pyongyang asserts that the yearly exercises, which involve about 120,000 soldiers, amount to preparations for an invasion of North Korea. While the announcement was seen as reducing tensions on the Korean Peninsula, there was no indication that North Korea would reconsider its March 12 decision to withdraw from the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty.

Somalis Agree on a Federal System

ADDIS ABABA, Ethiopia (Reuters) — Fifteen founding Somali factions agreed Wednesday on the outlines of the first form of any government seen in their country for more than two years. The factions, at a conference here sponsored by the United Nations, agreed to establish a federal-style system under which 18 autonomous regions will send representatives to a central transitional administration. Mohammed Abdi Abdulle, spokesman for the powerful Somali National Alliance, said details of the new administration could serve as "a supreme council" for a two-year interim period. He said a transitional administration council, or executive, would also be set up on which groups including intellectuals, women, religious leaders and elders would be represented.

3 German Planes Assigned to Airdrop

By Craig R. Whitney
New York Times Service

BONN — Germany decided Wednesday to send three transport planes to join the nightly U.S. airdrops of supplies to Muslim areas in eastern Bosnia.

Government spokesmen did not say when the missions would begin, but the crews of the C-160 cargo planes had been practicing maneuvers with American crews at the Rhein-Main Air Base near Frankfurt since last week. French and Russian planes have also been preparing to participate.

The decision by the cabinet seemed partly intended to spare Chancellor Helmut Kohl embarrassment about the more troublesome issue of German involvement in possible combat actions over Bosnia-Herzegovina when he meets with President Bill Clinton in Washington on Thursday.

Mr. Kohl's coalition also agreed to deploy patrol boats and officers from the Federal Border Guard on the Danube in Romania and Bulgaria to help those countries enforce the UN trade embargo against Yugoslavia, Reuters reported. Details of that mission would be settled by the nine-nation Western European Union on April 5, said Mr. Kohl's spokesman, Dieter Vogt.

The leadership of the German armed forces also fear losing face with the allies if soldiers are ordered off the surveillance planes. Mr. Kohl's party insists that the constitutional ban on "acts tending to and undertaken with the intent to disturb the peaceful relations between nations" did not prevent German soldiers from taking part in peacekeeping missions under the UN aegis.

If necessary, some party leaders said over the weekend, the Christian Democrats should simply override their coalition partners and insist that German troops stay aboard the air surveillance planes.

There are 18 four-engine Boeing E-3A planes in the NATO operation, based primarily at the German airfield at Geilenkirchen, near the Netherlands. Germans provide about 30 percent of the 1,500 military personnel involved, according to NATO officials.

Youths in Berlin Assault Briton for Speaking English

Agence France-Press

BERLIN — A 38-year-old Briton was severely beaten by a gang of youths here early Wednesday because he was a foreigner, the police said. The man, identified only as James B., was hit on the head with a steel bar after he spoke to the youths in English and they swore at him for being a foreigner, a spokesman said.

James B., who lives in Berlin with a German girlfriend, is receiving hospital treatment for severe head injuries, he said. Details about the attack were given by the girlfriend.

Seventeen people were killed in Germany last year in anti-foreigner or ultraright violence. The toll this year is two. In virtually all the cases, the victims have been Africans, Asians or Germans.

RUSSIA: A Rejected Compromise

(Continued from page 1)

tenion and confusion, in which Mr. Yeltsin and his rivals at first seemed headed for compromise but ended more bitterly opposed than ever. Mr. Yeltsin and Prime Minister Viktor S. Chernomyrdin met in the Kremlin for more than 90 minutes with Mr. Yeltsin's chief adversary, the speaker of parliament, Russian I. Khasbulatov, and with Valeri D. Zorkin, the president of the Constitutional Court, but the meeting produced no compromise.

Mr. Khasbulatov said the two sides would continue seeking an accord until Friday, with some suggesting that early elections for both president and parliament might offer a way out of the crisis.

But Mr. Khasbulatov's tone was hostile, as he accused Yeltsin sides of "overtly fomenting civil war" and contributing to "the disintegration of the homeland." Mr. Yeltsin's spokesman said Mr. Khasbulatov made "ultimatum-like demands, rudely presented" and was seeking by any means to open the way for the "powers of revenge and totalitarian restoration" the Interfax news agency reported.

Many of Mr. Yeltsin's opponents suggested that even if the Congress did not vote to remove the president from office, it could mount a major assault on him and his reform program. Andrei Fedorov, an aide to Mr. Rutskoi, who does not support the president, said the Congress might try to replace the prime minister and entire cabinet.

Mr. Yeltsin's unexpectedly "soft" decree confounded many of his supporters. On Saturday, declaring that he was acting to prevent the return of communism, the

president claimed special powers for five weeks to force through the nationwide vote.

"We can no longer live in a situation of constant crisis of power," Mr. Yeltsin said then. "Under the circumstances, the president is forced to assume the responsibility for the destiny of the country."

But the decree issued Wednesday differed in key respects from the draft document released after Mr. Yeltsin's speech. In addition to making no mention of special powers, the president no longer called for a vote of confidence in Mr. Rutskoi along with himself.

More important, instead of his sweeping statement that any legislative attempts to derail the vote would be void, Mr. Yeltsin's decree acknowledges the Constitutional Court's right to decide whether his actions are valid. Given that Mr. Zorkin, the court's president, denounced his Saturday address as an attempted coup two hours after Mr. Yeltsin spoke, that is a significant concession.

Some interpreted his decision to back away from "special rule" as a tactic intended to win support in Friday's likely vote on impeachment.

Other politicians suggested that neither Mr. Yeltsin nor the parliament had the strength to force the other to back down, raising the possibility of a protracted and dangerous stalemate.

The Constitutional Court ruled Mr. Yeltsin in violation of the constitution on Tuesday, purely on the basis of his television address and without having seen any decree.



UN soldiers in Tuzla leading a woman and children who were among 21 evacuated Wednesday from Srebrenica by French helicopters.

BOSNIA: UN Halts Airlift of Wounded After Serbs Shell Landing Fields

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resolution have led to prolonged consultations among council members.

Diplomats said the resolution presented problems for Moscow at a time when President Boris N. Yeltsin is embroiled in a fierce domestic power struggle and wants to avoid being depicted by his foes as selling out the Serbs.

The International Court of Justice in The Hague said it would

hold the first public hearings on April 1 in Bosnia's war crimes case against Serbia and Montenegro. Bosnia accused the two republics, which make up the rump state of Yugoslavia, of genocide and other war crimes in an application filed to the court on Saturday.

Bosnia has asked the court for an emergency ruling, ordering Serbia and Montenegro to halt all killings, the destruction of towns and villages and ethnic cleansing. It has also asked the court to order Serbia

and its ally to pay reparations. Croatia and rebel Serbs have agreed that the mandate of UN peacekeepers in the Krajina enclave should be extended but have reached no cease-fire accord. UN officials said in Geneva. A UN spokeswoman, Therise Gastaud, said that senior mediators who visited Zagreb and Belgrade this week had reported "substantial progress" in their efforts to end two months of fighting, but differences remained.

Diplomats said the Croats had accepted a proposal from the mediators for a mixed Serbian-Croatian police force in the area, to be set up and run by the UN Protection Force. The UN force's mandate to operate in Croatia expires on March 31.

Fighting broke out in Krajina in late January after Croatian troops breached a cease-fire line set up a year before by the UN mediator, Cyrus R. Vance.

The coalition government has been deeply divided about whether German troops would have to pull out of NATO air surveillance missions of military flights over Bosnia-Herzegovina if, as expected, the United Nations Security Council authorizes the use of force to keep Serbian aircraft from flying there.

Mr. Kohl's Christian Democrats declared in a unanimous vote of their deputies on Tuesday that the 1949 German Constitution would not require withdrawal. But Foreign Minister Klaus Kinkel's Free Democrats insisted that, without a constitutional change, German crew members on NATO Airborne Warning and Control System planes monitoring traffic over the Balkans would have to get off.

Mr. Kohl fears a repetition of the American criticism that followed his decision to keep German troops out of the 1991 Gulf War on constitutional grounds.

ARMY: For Now, the Russian Military Remains an Uncertain Player

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if it meant firing on Russian civilians. "If I were Grachev," said a Western diplomat, "I wouldn't have any confidence in what my forces would actually do. It's just too sensitive, and in the last year there's been a decline in discipline across the board."

Major General Gennadi Ivanov of the Defense Ministry said Tuesday that the military's aims now were simple. "We are supportive of the constitution. We don't want any bloodshed, or the army's breakdown. Briefly, that's what our position is all about."

He said the army was "looking forward to a compromise and hoping for one."

During the abortive coup in August 1991 against Mikhail S. Gorbachev, crack special forces refused to obey orders to storm the Russian parliament, where Mr. Yeltsin was holding out surrounded by mostly unarmed civilians.

Gleb Yakunin, a legislator who has supported Mr. Yeltsin, said: "If in August, when they had full control of the army, they still couldn't keep it together, they certainly can't expect to do it now."

Sergei Rogov, a military expert and deputy director of the Institute of USA and Canada Studies, agreed.

"The military is more divided and confused now than it was in August 1991," he said. "They're very confused and not at all eager to take sides right now, which is a good idea. Otherwise, this clash of political eggs could turn into real bloodshed and civil war."

But a senior Western diplomat said that the longer the political stalemate continued, the more the risk would grow that the military would be dragged in to provide some sort of quick resolution. He noted that Mr. Yeltsin's chosen date for a plebiscite, April 25, was still a month away.

"The power ministries are still on the sidelines and will stay there as long as they can," he said. "And they can so long as nobody turns to them and says, 'Do something,' and so far no one has."

"But it's important to understand that the military's decision not to intervene has content. It means that they are apparently not at the disposal of the president, unless they decide that what he asks them to do is constitutional. And no one is certain where they'd come out if pressed to an action they might regard as unconstitutional."

A senior Russian security official said that the military and security services liked "order" and had little respect for the unpredictable Congress of People's Deputies.

"But the services have their share of ultranationalists and radicals, like the rest of society," the official said.

They can do nothing much in Moscow," he said. "But they can wipe out New York."

Along with new feelings of amity, there is resentment within some military circles, as among conservative politicians, at what many see as Western efforts to dictate to Russia at its moment of weakness.

Boris Fyodorov, deputy prime minister and a strong supporter of Mr. Yeltsin, acknowledged that a new arms race would be disastrous for Russia, which is virtually bankrupt. But he warned that governments have pursued self-destructive policies more than once in the past.

"An arms race would drive our country, especially our country, to collapse," he said. "But nonetheless such a danger exists."

Mr. Fyodorov also warned that a new conservative government might decide not to repay the Soviet debt to the West, could refuse to ratify or enforce U.S.-Russian arms reduction treaties and might threaten the sovereignty of other new nations that have emerged from the Soviet Union.

This last threat has alarmed several of those new nations, prompting the Baltic states and others to issue statements of support for Mr. Yeltsin.

Although the Russian Army is severely weakened, many of the new republics have virtually no armed forces at all. — FRED HIATT

NAVY: The Old Soviet War Machine Won't Be Gearing Up Anytime Soon

(Continued from page 1)

the danger of illicit export of nuclear weapons. But a return to outright Cold War is a far less simple proposition. A policy of hostility would depend both on military capabilities and attitudes, and both have changed dramatically in recent years, experts said.

Russian generals, who have been traveling extensively to former "enemy" nations, maintain that their army can never go back to Cold War relations.

"Today, the U.S. and Russia are not enemies, not even rivals — they are partners," said Major General Gennadi Ivanov, the chief of the Defense Ministry's reform effort. "I don't think we have leaders at any level who could spur the arms race again or provoke a Cold War."

General Ivanov, who has visited the United States and Japan, said the military had prepared a new doctrine that was defensive in nature and viewed no one as an enemy.

"This is entirely new," he said.

And by all accounts, the Russian Army is weak, understaffed, poorly supplied and demoralized. Some navy recruits have died of malnutrition. The surface navy almost never puts to sea, in part from lack of fuel.

When the Soviet empire dissolved, the military lost key bases, from Berlin to Riga to

Sevastopol. It also lost — to Ukraine, Belarus and other former Soviet republics — much of its most modern equipment and many of its best-trained troops.

"The military forces we inherited do not represent a whole military organism," General Ivanov said.

The Russian armed forces officially number 2.7 million, compared with a high of 5 million under the Soviet government, but in fact the strength is probably far lower, most experts agree. Combat-readiness is so low that the general staff was hard-pressed to send a small peacekeeping mission to independence-minded Ingushetia, on Russia's southern border.

Pavel Feilengauer, a defense correspondent, said: "They were gathering people from the whole European part of Russia, taking 10 people there, 5 people here, improvising battle units, because there was simply no one to send. The general staff was working night and day just to scrape up 3,000 people to put in the field."

But amid all the confusion and disintegration, the armed forces have taken care to maintain at least a minimal state of battle-readiness of their strategic nuclear forces, which the generals see as the last badge of superpower status, Mr. Feilengauer added.

A WEEK IN THE LIFE OF THE TRIB

Monday MONDAY SPORTS	Thursday HEALTH/SCIENCE	POLITICS AND ECONOMICS	FOOD AND FASHION	THE NEW YORK TIMES CROSSWORD
Tuesday STYLE	Friday LEISURE	BUSINESS AND FINANCE	FILM AND THEATER	A LIVELY ARRAY OF COMICS
Wednesday STAGE	Saturday-Sunday ART/ THE MONEY REPORT	OPINION AND COMMENTARY	BOOKS AND TRAVEL	PULITZER PRIZE WINNING FEATURE COLUMNISTS
ENTERTAINMENT		THE ARTS AND SCIENCE	BRIDGE AND CHESS	Don't miss out. Make sure you get your copy of the IHT every day.

FIRST 100 DAYS / A BOLD APPROACH

POLITICAL NOTES

Was Rostenkowski Inquiry Sidetracked?

WASHINGTON — A federal prosecutor has suggested that the resignation of Attorney General Janet Reno to demand the prompt investigation of all U.S. attorneys could be tied to the long-running investigation of Representative Dan Rostenkowski, a crucial ally of President Bill Clinton's.

Jay B. Stephens, the U.S. attorney for the District of Columbia, who is a Bush administration holdover, said he had advised the Justice Department that he was within 30 days of making a "critical decision" in the Rostenkowski case when Ms. Reno directed him and other U.S. attorneys to submit their resignations, effective in a matter of days.

Although prosecutors are routinely replaced after a change in administration, Ms. Reno's order accelerated what had been expected to be a leisurely changeover.

Mr. Stephens said he would not resist the move to force him from office, and he held back from directly accusing Ms. Reno of interfering with the Rostenkowski inquiry.

But Mr. Stephens left the strong impression that Ms. Reno's actions might disrupt the investigation as he moved toward a decision on whether to seek charges against the Illinois Democrat, who is chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee.

Mr. Rostenkowski has been under scrutiny since last year, when his office records were subpoenaed in an inquiry into whether someone in his office used his expense account to obtain cash from the post office fraudulently.

Mr. Rostenkowski has repeatedly denied wrongdoing, and he has not been accused of any impropriety.

But if he is indicted, he will be forced by House rules to relinquish his chairmanship, a development that some lawmakers have said could seriously jeopardize Mr. Clinton's efforts to steer his economic and health-care proposals through Congress.

Ms. Reno denied any link between her action and the Rostenkowski case, asserting that Mr. Stephens had been treated like other U.S. attorneys and "is not being singled out." (NYT)

Big Support for Health Care Restructuring

WASHINGTON — A nationwide survey has found strong support for the likely elements of President Clinton's health care restructuring agenda, and 58 percent of the respondents expressed a willingness to pay a new 3 percent national sales tax to help finance coverage for the 37 million uninsured Americans.

The telephone poll, conducted by the California-based Kaiser Family Foundation and Louis Harris & Associates, surveyed 1,255 adults from March 3 to 10 and has a margin of error of three percentage points. Among the findings:

- 82 percent support a government mandate that employers provide insurance to workers.
• 87 percent back government-imposed limits on insurance premiums.
• 86 percent endorse the creation of large consumer purchasing cooperatives to bargain with medical providers for the best quality and lowest prices.
• 76 percent favor short-term price controls on doctors, hospitals and drug companies. (LAT)

Quote / Unquote

President Clinton, apologizing at his news conference for talking too many questions from the left side of the room: "I'm left-handed, you know, and I sometimes discriminate." (AP)

Clinton, No 'Bystander,' Plunges In Behind Russia

By R.W. Apple Jr. New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — When Bill Clinton called the White House on Monday from Little Rock, Arkansas, where he was visiting his critically ill father-in-law, several aides told him they thought he could conduct his first news conference the next day with only perfunctory reference to the crisis in Russia.

"Make a short statement, then say the situation is too delicate for further comment, that was the advice," an adviser reported.

"But he didn't want to do that. He told us this was an issue he wanted to link himself to in a strong, positive, public way, not just through administration spokesmen. He wanted to make Russian reform his cause as much as Boris Yeltsin's."

So that was what Mr. Clinton did, at this, his first full-dress news conference as president. It had been a long time in coming. But he has been answering questions in almost every setting imaginable in his first two months in office.

Tuesday, in the stagey East Room forum originally devised for Ronald Reagan, the president seemed loose and jolly, if understandably more guarded on the

situation in Russia than in discussing other domestic and foreign topics.

Yet he was taking a bold approach on Russia for one so inexperienced.

"We are not bystanders," he said. And at another point: "I intend to go in there with an aggressive and quite specific plan for American partnership."

Like many other American presidents, Mr. Clinton sought to make Russians seem like Americans, a dubious proposition at the best of times. Of Muscovite-in-the-street interviews on TV, he said: "They sound almost like our people might sound talking about some fight we were having here. They've been remarkably levelheaded about it, and I think we have to let it play out."

The difference, of course, is that Russia has no established institutions into which political animosities can be channeled. The potential for an explosion, in which the United States could be seriously hurt, is therefore great.

So if Mr. Clinton's approach is bold, it is also quite risky. The White House concedes that it has only

limited power to help Mr. Yeltsin. As Mr. Clinton said, it will be the Russians who will decide their own fate.

But he told a friend last week that it would be better to try and fail, than to sit on his hands and allow his critics to accuse him of having passively lost Russia, as Harry S. Truman's enemies accused him of having "lost" China.

Between now and April 25, the date of Mr. Yeltsin's referendum, an aide said, "help will have to be symbolic." Mr. Clinton's comments were part of the symbolism, as will be the very fact of their meeting early next month.

As things now stand, Vancouver, British Columbia, remains the site because, as the Russians have suggested strongly in the last 24 hours, moving it would make Mr. Yeltsin look too weak.

Mr. Clinton is also reportedly preparing for a major effort to push Japan into a more cooperative position on the question of aid to Russia.

"They're going to have to drop their insistence on those islands," the aide added, alluding to Tokyo's demand that its long-standing territorial dispute with Moscow over four Kuril Islands be settled before it discusses major aid for Russia.

In the diplomatic maneuvering over the next few weeks and months, the administration would also like to win a commitment for further help from Germany. But the government of Chancellor Helmut Kohl has already spent heavily to help the Soviet Union and then Russia, with only limited results, and it faces huge bills in modernizing Eastern Germany.

The big question preoccupying American planners is how to get money past or around the government in Moscow and into the hands of people who will put it to good use, whether to alleviate economic distress or to start businesses.

With so few alternative channels open, and with the central bank's status unclear, no solutions are obvious, and selling aid to the American public will almost certainly require a convincing explanation of how it will reach worthy recipients rather than disappear into bureaucrats' pockets. Mr. Clinton also faces some opposition from foreign policy specialists. Henry A. Kissinger warned him in a Washington Post essay to tread carefully. But he faces much more formidable resistance from a public that is weary of foreign adventures, skeptical about Russia and eager to use scarce resources to create jobs and improve health care at home.

Make Even Bigger Cuts, Greenspan Now Urges

By Steven Greenhouse New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — With congressional approval nearly clinched for President Bill Clinton's economic plan, Alan Greenspan, the Federal Reserve's chairman, called Wednesday for even deeper cuts in the budget deficit, saying he was worried that it would begin rising again late this decade.

Testifying before the Senate Finance Committee, Mr. Greenspan said that the deficit would soar again after 1997 unless Congress cut more over the five years covered by Mr. Clinton's plan and prepared to enact a new round of cuts after that.

Mr. Greenspan had given strong and crucial support to Mr. Clinton's proposal shortly after it was unveiled in February, and on Wednesday he said he remained encouraged by it. But he went on to say that by itself it would not remove the structural forces that have caused the federal debt to balloon over the past decade.

Some Federal Reserve watchers suggested that Mr. Greenspan had always thought the Clinton plan did not cut the deficit enough, but that he had not told Congress that in February because it would have

hurt the chances of Congress's approving the first credible deficit reduction plan to come along in years.

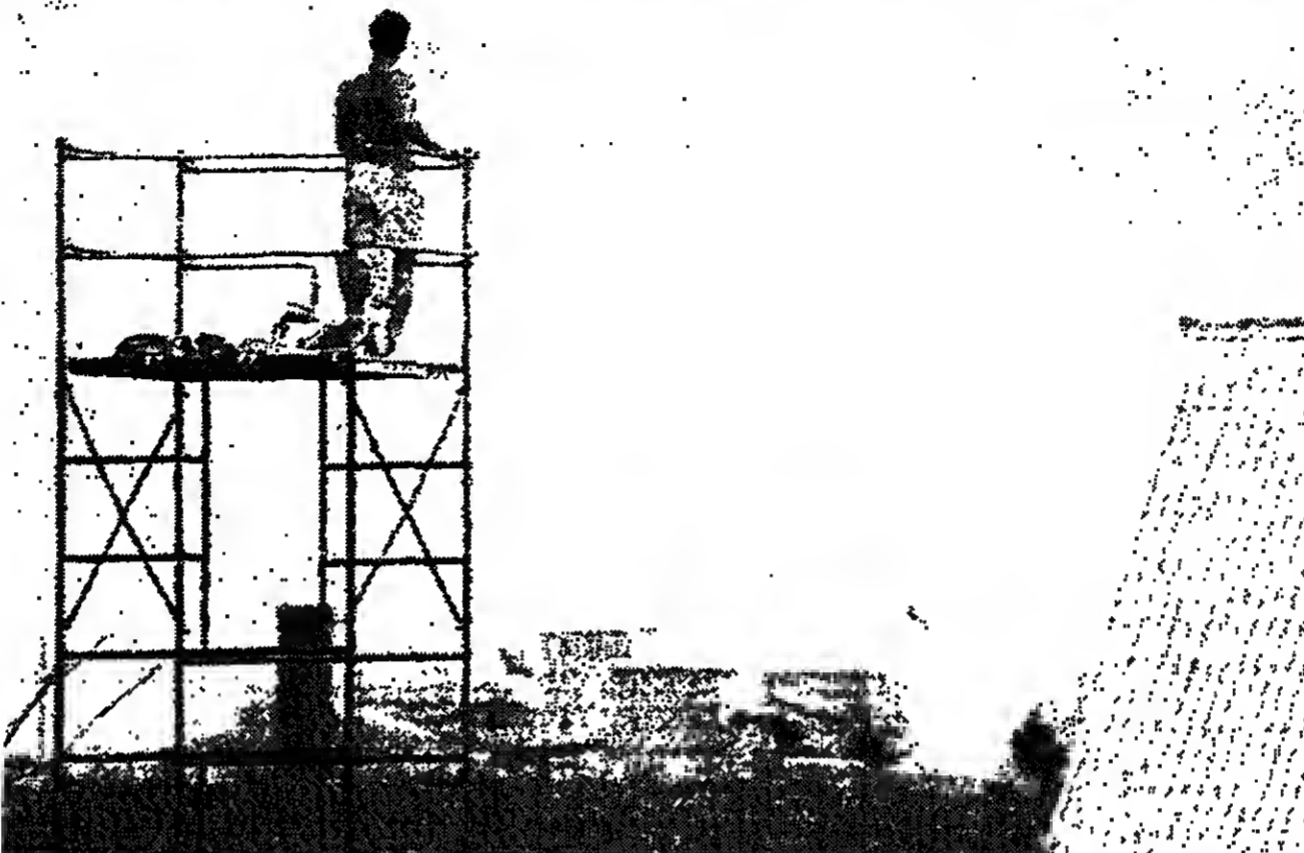
But Wednesday, with the Clinton plan moving smoothly through Congress, Mr. Greenspan apparently saw a chance to nudge Congress and the president toward further deficit reduction.

He also sought to mend fences with conservatives who have lambasted him for praising Mr. Clinton's plan, which relies more on tax increases than spending cuts to reduce the deficit.

He said that merely reducing the deficit the next five years "without addressing the period thereafter is not going to have the type of permanent effects that I think we need."

Tax Plan Survives Attack

The Senate on Wednesday rejected a Republican effort to kill Mr. Clinton's proposed tax increase on many Social Security recipients, as Democrats retuffed the stiffest challenge yet to the president's economic plan. The Associated Press reported. The vote was 52 to 47 to turn aside the Republican amendment, which was aimed at the most politically sensitive piece of the deficit-reduction plan:



CATCHING RAYS IN WACO — A news photographer sunning himself Wednesday as he watched over the Branch Davidian cult's besieged compound near Waco, Texas. David Koresh, the cult leader, declared a "high holy day" and refused to talk with negotiators.

From South Carolina, Lessons for Improving U.S. Schools

By Susan Chira New York Times Service

SUMMERTON, South Carolina — When Richard W. Riley, then governor, now U.S. secretary of education, first looked hard at South Carolina's schools in 1983, he saw an educational backwater. The state trailed nearly all others in test scores and money for schools. Rural towns like this one did not even have working microscopes in science classrooms.

It was the start of his second term. Within a year, mounting a campaign that offered toll-free education hot lines and educational tour meetings, Mr. Riley pushed through changes hailed at the time as the nation's most wide-ranging education effort.

By spending more money on public schools, imposing higher standards and holding the schools responsible for results, the law helped South Carolina post some of the biggest test score increases in the country, even if the state's scores still lag behind many others.

"It brought South Carolina from the dark ages into

the light," said Jo Day, a first-grade teacher in Columbia, the capital.

The lessons that Mr. Riley learned along the way are the ones he plans to apply to U.S. schools: rally public support to build coalitions to fight for education; insist that schools set goals and test for results; spend money to help schools meet higher standards; ask schools to develop comprehensive plans for change, and keep tinkering with the results.

Many of these principles are incorporated in the Clinton administration's first big education bill, which is expected to be unveiled next week.

The 60-year-old secretary's admirers expect him to do for American education what he did for South Carolina: apply his persuasive powers, his gift for winning allies, and his grit to a cause he cares deeply about.

"He has a bone-deep commitment," said Bill Youngblood, a lawyer in Charleston who heads a business education group charged by the state with

monitoring South Carolina's education laws. "You feel it within a few seconds of the time you meet him. It affects you."

But Mr. Riley's experience in South Carolina also shows how difficult, complex and slow a task that he and his department will face. Despite considerable progress, South Carolina still ranks low compared with the nation as a whole, and test scores have not improved in the last two years. This plateau suggests the limitations of the basic-skills, top-down approach many states adopted in the mid-1980s.

And time has also demonstrated other needs the law did not meet — ones that Mr. Riley and his aides say they will emphasize at the national level: teacher training, more extensive early childhood programs, flexibility for local schools, consolidating the mélange of social services for poor children in schools, and more emphasis on the sophisticated analytical skills that employers want.

Mr. Riley's effort employed tactics like those Ross

Perot and Mr. Clinton would later make famous. He held question-and-answer sessions, set up toll-free numbers and deployed county coordinators to whip up enthusiasm for his proposed changes.

South Carolina's Education Improvement Act was passed in 1984.

It raised the state sales tax by a penny on the dollar to pay for remedial and gifted-children classes, higher teachers' salaries, early childhood programs, and new basic-skills tests, including a high school graduation exam.

Schools that improved scores and attendance got cash bonuses; the state intervened in school districts whose scores and other indicators dipped below set levels.

In addition to raising test scores, South Carolina's education law and subsequent revisions fired public enthusiasm about education and created a coalition of politicians, business executives and educators that continues to push for improvement in the schools.



Governor L. Douglas Wilder of Virginia was all grins after signing a law in Richmond that limits purchases of handguns.

Firearm Deaths Soaring Among American Youth

Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — The rate at which young Americans are killed by guns has risen drastically in recent years, and firearms are now involved in one in every four deaths among persons 15 to 24, the federal government reported.

The National Center for Health Statistics, which has been tracking firearm death rates since the late 1960s, reported that the rate among people 15 to 19 had risen to the highest ever recorded in the United States.

In that age group, and among those 20 to 24, firearms are responsible for more deaths than all natural causes combined. Only motor vehicle accidents cause more deaths in those age groups.

In 1990, the last year for which complete data are available, guns used in homicides, suicides or accidents caused the deaths of nearly 4,200 teenagers, according to the report, compared with about 2,500 gun-related deaths in 1985.

Sixty percent of deaths among black teenage males were gun-related, compared with 23 percent among white teenage males.

Compromise on Gay GIs Draws Fire on Both Sides

By Bill McAllister Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — Supporters and opponents of President Bill Clinton's plan to lift the ban on homosexuals in the military quickly condemned the president after he said that he might agree to job restrictions on gay service personnel, contending that such a step would create serious morale problems.

Advocates of homosexual rights said barring gay people from combat and other military assignments would create a separate but unequal career path for them. Backers of the current ban objected that if a number of non-combat jobs were reserved for homosexuals, the chances for heterosexuals of ending up in riskier combat jobs would increase.

"This would not be compromise," said Thomas B. Stoddard, coordinator of the Campaign for Military Service, a coalition seeking an end to the ban on homosexuals in the armed services. "This would be capitulation to the other side."

"All we're asking for is to be treated like everyone else," said a navy aviator, Tracy W. Thorne, who is facing dismissal because he is

homosexual. He said the idea of job restrictions would prevent him from returning to flight duty with the attack jet squadron he had served in before declaring his homosexuality.

Supporters of the military's current ban warned that a compromise arrangement would still have a disastrous impact on military morale while leading to further complications. "This is not going to resolve the issue," said Charles S. Moskos, a military sociologist at Northwestern University.

The possibility that avowed homosexuals might be allowed to serve in the military but with restrictions was raised in a question to Mr. Clinton on Tuesday. The president responded that if the services can discriminate in recruiting recruits, "then I would think you could make appropriate distinctions on duty assignments once they are in."

In response to a later question, Mr. Clinton said he would not decide whether to support restrictions until receiving a Defense Department report due July 15 on the proposed removal of the ban. "But I wouldn't rule that out, depending on what the grounds and the arguments were," he said.

The Pentagon was directed in January to prepare the report after Mr. Clinton retreated from a plan to end the military ban by executive order. Instead, the president agreed to allow the military services to study the issue and await the outcome of hearings by the Senate Armed Services Committee. The hearings are scheduled to begin next week, but the Pentagon has been slow to start its study.

Many in the military have made no secret of their opposition to serving beside avowed homosexuals, saying the presence of gay personnel particularly in the close quarters of army trenches or navy ships would offend heterosexual personnel and disrupt the efficiency of fighting forces. Permitting homosexuals in the military but keeping them out of the trenches and off ships is an option mentioned by some as a way of meeting the objection to an outright ban while taking into account concerns about maintaining troop morale.

A senior administration official, speaking after the news conference Tuesday, said the president still "thinks it's wrong to discriminate against people on the basis of what they say they are."

Away From Politics

- The Supreme Court ruled, 6 to 3, that a ban by the city of Cincinnati on the distribution of free advertising publications from sidewalk racks violated the First Amendment.
• Nearly 3 million low-income senior citizens and disabled Americans have failed to take advantage of a federal program that pays some out-of-pocket medical expenses, in part due to complex application forms, Families USA, a health-care advocacy group, reported.
• Japanese cars remained way out front in a reliability survey by the magazine Consumer Reports, with Saturn one of the few American makes to get good ratings, but the magazine said U.S. automakers had narrowed the quality gap with Japan's automakers.
• Rupert Murdoch has called Governor Mario M. Cuomo of New York and at least two U.S. senators to see if he would have political support for a waiver of Federal Communications Commission regulations to allow him to buy back The New York Post.
• A 1992 analysis of the home-movie film of John F. Kennedy's assassination supports the conclusion that a lone gunman killed the president, a report by Dr. John K. Latimer, the first nongovernment investigator to examine the autopsy file, says.
• Governor Gary Hunt of Alabama had 12 theft charges against him dismissed in a case involving charges of personal use of \$300,000 in campaign funds, but he still faces trial in April on an ethics charge. (UPI, AP, NYT)

John Hersey, Acclaimed Author of 'Hiroshima,' Dies at 78

By Richard Severo New York Times Service

John Hersey, 78, the novelist and journalist whose book "Hiroshima" awakened Americans to the horrors of atomic warfare, died Wednesday in Key West, Florida. His novel, "A Bell for Adano," won a Pulitzer Prize for fiction in 1945.

Mr. Hersey suffered a stroke a year ago, and also had cancer of the colon and liver, said his wife, Barbara.

He emerged not only as a first-rate reporter but also as a storyteller who nurtured the idea that writers had to pursue a moral goal. He involved himself deeply in the issues of his day.

In public appearances and in work on special committees, he never hesitated to speak out on such issues as the Vietnam War, which he strongly opposed; or problems in American education, and on issues central to the craft of

writing, including censorship, government intimidation of writers and copyright protection.

Mr. Hersey won praise for the directness of his style, his eye for detail and his ability to get to the heart of any situation. But critics suggested that his journalism showed in his novels.

The novel "A Bell for Adano" was inspired by events that occurred in Licata, a small town in Sicily that was ravaged by World War II. The book used some experiences of Major Frank E. Toscani, a U.S. Army officer who became Licata's military governor and learned from townspeople that their most pressing need was the return of their bell, which had been taken down by the enemy and melted for the war effort against the Allies.

Mr. Hersey's next big project was "Hiroshima," a major work of nonfiction that traces the lives of six people who survived the atomic bombing of Japan in 1945. It was

written as a three-part series for The New Yorker, but the magazine's editors, Harold Ross and William Shawn, instead decided to print it in full Aug. 31, 1946, allowing it to consume nearly all the editorial space in the issue.

Lewis Gannett, writing in The New York Herald Tribune, called "Hiroshima" "the best reporting" of the war and Time magazine praised its restraint. The piece was developed into a book.

There was more praise in 1950 for "The Wall," his novel about events in the Warsaw ghetto from November 1939, with the German occupation, to May 1943, when the last houses in the ghetto were razed.

John Richard Hersey was born in Yonkers, N.Y. His father, Rose, worked for the Young Men's Christian Association there. His mother, the former Grace Baird, was a missionary.

John, who spent most of his first

10 years in China, spoke Chinese before he spoke English.

In 1924, the family moved to Beacon Hill Manor, New York. After attending public schools there, he was enrolled in the Hotchkiss School in Lakeville, Connecticut, which he attended from 1927 to 1932. After that came Yale, from which he graduated in 1936, and then Clare College, Cambridge. By the time his college days were over, he was determined to become a journalist.

Returning to the United States in May 1937, he learned that Sinclair Lewis needed a private secretary. Mr. Hersey thus became his summer intern.

Later in 1937, he was hired by Time magazine. "Time seemed to me to be the liveliest enterprise of its type, and I wanted more than anything to be connected with it," he later said.

In 1939, Time sent Mr. Hersey to the Far East, where he covered the initial stages of World War II. His

first book, "Men on Bataan," appeared in 1942, and the next year he wrote "Into the Valley," a novel about a skirmish on Guadalcanal.

Before moving on to Sicily, Mr. Hersey suffered some injuries, was involved in a few plane crashes, and, on one occasion, found his notes floating in the water outside his wrecked aircraft.

During the years immediately after the war he wrote more novels, such as "The Marmot Drive" (1953), "A Single Pebble" (1956) and "The War Lover" (1959). He also kept alive his interests in things that had nothing to do with his books. He joined a number of local and national educational organizations and took a post at Yale University in 1963.

He became an early opponent of American involvement in the Vietnam War, and in 1965 he was a sponsor of a March on Washington for Peace in Vietnam.

Polykarp Kasch, 82, recipient of

the Nobel Prize in Physics for his contributions to knowledge of the atom, died Saturday in Dallas. He had suffered a series of strokes and had been ill for several months. He determined the magnetic moment of the electron, for which he shared a Nobel prize with another physicist at Columbia University, William E. Lamb, in 1955.

Robert Crichton, 68, author of the best-sellers "The Great Impostor" and "The Secret of Santa Vittoria," both of which became movies, died of heart failure in New Rochelle, N.Y.

William A. Dyer Jr., 90, president of Indianapolis Newspapers Inc., the parent company of The Indianapolis Star and The Indianapolis News, died Sunday in Indianapolis.

Louis J. Jemm, 77, founder of Jenn-Air Corp., a pioneer in the design of kitchen ranges, died March 18 in Indianapolis.

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The French Rejected Joblessness

By William Kraft

PARIS — The predicted obliteration of the French Socialist Party in Sunday's first-round parliamentary vote has been seen by some as confirmation of the death of socialism. This does not follow. The conservative parties will take power after Sunday's second-round election...

Nationalized companies are not necessarily less efficient than private ones. The essential question is one of management, not ownership. But neither are state-owned companies automatically more socially minded than private ones...

"Socialism" in Western Europe now means more or less what liberalism has meant in the United States, a general inclination of government toward social intervention and assumption of responsibility for the well-being of the citizenry...

The conservative parties are equally ideological. In France they campaigned in the last parliamentary election, in 1986, on slogans of market liberalization and deregulation borrowed from Ronald Reagan and Margaret Thatcher...

It could even have been the Socialists' program. They probably will themselves make much the same promises campaigning in the next election. What other program is there? That is why I say that there has been no rejection of socialism in this election...

All of the European countries except Britain are following the centrist policies of the "social market economy" or "social capitalism," where industry is left to the private sector, although with more interventionist government support than in the United States...

International Herald Tribune. © Los Angeles Times Syndicate.



The Loss of Two-Parent Families Damages Society

By David S. Broder

WASHINGTON — In a week when the future of Russia is being debated in the balance, it may seem frivolous to write about anything else. But the topic of this column is not frivolous. It is the American family...

Reflecting on what government can and cannot do, Mr. Galston says: "Returning to a higher-wage, higher-productivity growth track is not just an issue for the American economy, but for America's children and families as well..."

Since 1960, he reported, "there has been a 560 percent increase in violent crime; more than a 400 percent increase in illegitimate births; a quadrupling of divorce rates; a tripling of the percentage of children living in single-parent homes..."

According to Mr. Gergen, an Aspen seminar last summer brought together a variety of experts, among them both strong advocates and sharp critics of past government welfare programs...

The main points of agreement are that "our children are in worse shape than generally thought," and that their future will be determined by cultural trends (particularly the rise in divorce and illegitimacy)...

Mr. Gergen said, the participants agreed that "the best anti-poverty program for children is a stable, intact family." The person whose words Mr. Gergen was quoting is William A. Galston...

In his essay, Mr. Galston acknowledges the relevance of both economic and cultural factors...

The policy debate is not new. Rival advocacy groups such as the liberal Children's Defense Fund and the conservative Family Research Council have been arguing for their favorite policies for years...

That is why the third of the week's reports is so significant. In last year's campaign, what could have been an important debate on family policy took a disastrous turn when a speech writer for Dan Quayle inserted into a serious and sensible speech on that subject a paragraph criticizing the television character Murphy Brown...

None of this came as much of a surprise to anyone following the course of the anti-abortion movement in America. For what the murder illustrates has been obvious for some time: The anti-abortion movement is being steered largely by its right wing...

Like the author of the Jezebel tract, those who have hijacked the anti-abortion movement from its more moderate players come with an agenda that goes far beyond ending a pregnancy. Anti-abortion hot lines now include information on how to protest against homosexuals in the military and sex education in the schools...

But the obvious has now become news, ever since Dr. David Gunn was shot in the back outside a Florida abortion clinic. The assassin was a protester so committed to the wellbeing of women and children that his wife once charged in court documents that he had been violent with her and their two young daughters...

The man leading the protesters at the clinic where Dr. Gunn was killed was a former Ku Klux Klan member who once broke into a clinic and slammed an administrator into the wall...

None of this came as much of a surprise to anyone following the course of the anti-abortion movement in America.

anti-abortion commando, jamming clinic phone lines and picketing doctors at their homes. I know that there are others, thoughtful and empathetic. I have listened to the voices of Helen Alvarez, the intelligent and articulate woman who speaks on this subject for the National Catholic bishops, and Nat Hentoff, the friend of the First Amendment who tweaks the notion that abortion opposition is synonymous with fundamentalist Christianity by describing himself as a Jewish atheist...

It was heartened when the president of a Texas anti-abortion organization traveled the shooting of Dr. Gunn. "You don't win a moral war through force or coercion or intimidation. You win through reason." But those who talk in a heartfelt way of abortion as the taking of life are being overwhelmed by the zealotry of those who consider criminalizing abortion the first step toward eliminating the ascendancy of the offending Jezebel...

It is not only time for advocates of legal abortion to oppose this zealotry. It is time for those who are opposed to abortion and who shrink from putting bloody pictures in the mail, nations acid through the clinic keypad or a bullet in a good man's back to speak out, too. Those whose ethos is a seamless garment of respect for life, not one of subjugation and control, must speak loudly if their cause is to have any credence.

The writer is an economics professor at George Washington University. He contributed this column to The Washington Post.

how damaging, but only by another model." This sometimes leaves governments with little alternative to basing policies on theories that fly in the face of experience, until better theories are developed. As a last resort, they might want to look around and see what is actually happening. But that will never win you a Nobel prize.

The Washington Post.

IN OUR PAGES: 100, 75 AND 50 YEARS AGO

1893: A Snarling Storm NEW YORK — One of the most serious storms which has visited the Middle West for some years commenced on Wednesday [March 22] and is still raging. The damage done in Indianapolis is estimated at \$100,000. Telegraphic communication is interrupted throughout various States. The Mississippi Valley also was swept yesterday [March 23] by a terrific cyclone. The towns of Tunica and Cleveland have almost been destroyed, and serious loss of life at the former is feared.

1918: Business as Usual PARIS — The French Government has decided that the daily life of Paris shall not cease during the bombardments by the long-range gun. On the other hand, the population will be warned in future by the beating of drums and the blowing of whistles by policemen. For the duration of the bombardment the public services will continue to operate normally, and trams, Métros, trams, etc. will not stop running. This gun warning (Alerte No. 3) will be an intimation to the public not to gather in crowds in the thoroughfares.

1943: Bigger Bombers LONDON — [From our New York edition:] New types of bigger, faster and better-defended American bombers, able to carry three or four times the present bomb load of the Flying Fortresses and Liberators, will be used by the United States Army Air Force to bomb Germany and Nazi-occupied Europe by night as well as by day this summer, Major General Ira C. Eaker, commander of the 8th Air Force, said today [March 24] in an interview at his headquarters. The "experimental stage" of American air operations in Europe is over, he said, and "the next step is to build up our air force to operate on a scale of full partnership with the Royal Air Force."

Herald Tribune

Help Russians to Hope

It is a faintly encouraging sign in Moscow's crisis of authority that each side wishes to be seen as operating under the law. Unfortunately, the legitimacy of the law itself is at issue. The constitution under which Boris Yeltsin's foes would impeach him is, with cause, discredited by his supporters as a tainted Soviet-era product...

President Bill Clinton sought to deal with this question on Tuesday by underlining his support for peaceful and democratic means. It would be wild for him even to hint that President Yeltsin should invoke force — although in normal law-respecting democratic circumstances a chief executive has a duty to uphold the integrity of the state...

Mr. Yeltsin would make the Russian people the ultimate political arbiter, he means to consult them in a referendum on April 25. No doubt this procedure lends itself to populist abuse, but it meets the standards of representative democracy. The people have far greater authority than any parliamentarians chosen under the Brezhnev constitution...

This is what makes it necessary for Mr. Clinton and others to go beyond symbolic politics into the concrete realm of foreign aid. Yes, Mr. Yeltsin speaks for "reform," but reform has been irregularly conceived and administered. Mr. Clinton means to show up at their April 3-4 summit — wherever it is — with "an aggressive and quite specific plan for American partnership."

— THE WASHINGTON POST.

Prime Time Next Time

Leaving his windbreaker in the closet, Bill Clinton wore a crisp suit, striped tie and polished shoes on Tuesday to the first news conference of his presidency. He not only "survived" the encounter, in the words of one television anchor, but did so without serious damage. This suggests that he might face the press again someday, assuming that he can overcome his advisers' preference for tightly controlled settings far from the dreaded Washington press corps and their habit of asking tougher questions than school-boys-olds do.

Until now, one of the glibbost occupants of the Oval Office since John Kennedy has stiffed the press in favor of one-way radio addresses and the electronic town hall, which has to be a media planner's gift from heaven. Both enable him to serve the high democratic ideal of talking directly to the people, including well rehearsed children, while avoiding questions from the resident press.

There is nothing wrong with the Cousin Bill approach; and there is much to be gained by burbling the Beltway to talk to the folks who sent him there in the first place. Still, televised press conferences have their uses, especially at a time when the administration is being criticized, albeit less vigorously than it deserves, for conducting health care talks in secret. Nobody has hit

on a better way than through the press for the public to question its chief executive. Although rarely models of elevated discourse (ask Richard Nixon), press conferences shed light on policy, increase the accountability of the president and the press, and give him a chance to show that he, not his handlers, runs the show.

In that regard, Mr. Clinton did all right on Tuesday. Apart from the squishy suggestion that he might allow the military some leeway on the deployment of homosexual soldiers, he spoke crisply and in whole sentences on matters ranging from the Supreme Court to the spotted owl. He sounded only one note of exasperation, when asked for the third time whether he meant it the first two times when he said he supported Boris Yeltsin.

"Let's do this again," said someone at the end. And why not? At the present rate, Mr. Clinton is on course to match the dubious record set by the Great Communicator himself, Ronald Reagan, who held a mere 0.5 news conferences per month. Even George Bush, loopy syntax and all, took the podium 2.9 times per month. That is a standard to which Mr. Clinton might reasonably aspire. And the next outing should be at 9 P.M., now that his advisers can be sure he's ready for prime time.

— THE NEW YORK TIMES.

Getting Away With It?

Commit atrocities on a large enough scale and you get away with it, on the argument that full accountability would destabilize the political order.

That is the callous conclusion invited by El Salvador's sweeping amnesty law, promulgated by President Alfredo Cristiani and hurriedly passed last weekend by a National Assembly controlled by his pro-military party. This unseemly rush to protect the guilty affronts the United Nations-sponsored peace process, international human rights law and the memory of El Salvador's victims.

President Cristiani can still impose administrative rather than judicial penalties. But, given his kid gloves approach to military and guerrilla murderers so far, he probably will not do so unless he is pressed by the outside world.

El Salvador's 12-year civil war left more than 75,000 dead and a million displaced, in a country of just 5 million. The vast majority of victims were civilians. The Truth Commission set up as part of the United Nations peace process investigated 25,000 cases, interviewing 2,000 witnesses. Its report names those responsible, directly or indirectly, for some of the most heinous crimes, like the 1980 murder of Archbishop Oscar Romero by rightists, the 1989 massacre of peasants in El Mozote and the 1989 murder of six Jesuit priests, both by the military, and the 1985 assassination campaign against local mayors by the guerrillas. International law holds governments responsible for punishing such crimes. So does

practical politics, since no democratic culture can be built where citizens live in terror of armed forces that hold themselves above all law. But in cases like El Salvador, where criminality was so pervasive and civil institutions remain so weak, practical politics also argues for pursuing symbolic, not total, accountability. In chains-of-command systems like the government and guerrilla armies, senior officers bear ultimate responsibility for the deeds of units they command.

That is an argument for limiting the number of trials to those for a few higher-ups. But the Truth Commission endorsed an even more cautious approach: administrative removal of human rights violators from military or civilian office and a 10-year ban on their future political candidacies, a less risky course than protracted criminal trials.

As bad as it is, the amnesty law does not preclude imposing such penalties at a later date. But the unseemly rush to pardon is hardly an encouraging sign.

The United States and other aid-giving countries can stiffen the Cristiani government's spine. The Clinton administration has already bled up \$11 million of aid until El Salvador institutes the UN recommendations. If necessary, that financial pressure can be increased. Given the role that the Reagan and Bush administrations played in funneling money to the Salvadoran military and concealing what it knew about responsibility for these crimes, Washington cannot just walk away.

— THE NEW YORK TIMES.

A Tale of 10,000 Ties

A recently deceased corporate executive in Pittsburgh left behind a collection of some 10,000 neckties. He had worn hardly any of them. Until he died (he was in his 70s) he was almost always seen in the same tie, a blue one with gold stains.

He apparently went nearly every day to one or several of the half-dozen clothing stores he frequented and bought ties of many types. "He knew what he was looking for," said one of the store owners.

To many American men this sort of behavior is, while not exactly normal, at least understandable. The impulse to acquire colorful, attention-getting ties is strong in men, neckties being about the only accepted outlet for tendencies toward flamboyant male display. On the other hand, the tie is also the only item of apparel that can be freely ridiculed by one's friends and associates. On such occasions the wearer is expected to join in the general hilarity even though deep

down he probably considers his neckwear to be a truly beautiful and expressive accessory.

Many a man has spent more than he should on some tie, only to have second thoughts about subjecting it to the judgment of his peers, who will undoubtedly consider it too bright, too expensive, too many borses and beagles on it. He may take it out occasionally and wonder how it would look with a smoking jacket — although, being an American male, he also wouldn't be caught dead in a smoking jacket, and may even have a provision in his will to that effect.

That is likely what happened on a grand scale with the late corporate executive in Pittsburgh. His name has not been disclosed, but his tie collection has been acquired by a clothing merchant who was owed a lot of money for neckties. The ties are being sold at auction — the last occasion, we'd guess, on which most of them will be seen in public.

— THE WASHINGTON POST.

Economists of the Macro Sort Don't Do Much Good

By Robert M. Dunn Jr.

WASHINGTON — Are economists good for the economy? A survey of the Nobel prize winners in economics — presumably the best in the business — suggests not.

Thirty-two economists have received the Nobel prize since it was instituted in 1969. Seventy-eight percent of winners have come from two countries — the United States, with 20 laureates, and Britain, with five — that have had relatively poor economic performance in recent decades.

From 1965 to 1990, real per capita output in America and Britain grew by 1.8 percent per year, compared to 3.3 percent for the other major industrialized countries. Both countries have had low savings and investment rates and slow labor productivity growth during much of the post-World War II era. In America, real hourly wage rates for unskilled workers have actually declined by more than 10 percent since 1973. America's glut of wonderful electronics does not appear to have accomplished much for millions of Americans.

There have been no Nobel prizes for economists from Germany or Japan, where economic performance has been particularly strong. Nor have there been prizes for the economists of the fast-growing Asian "tigers" such as Taiwan, South Korea and Singapore. Among the countries that have not won Nobel prizes, Israel and India have strong academic traditions in economics. Both have had more than their share of economic troubles.

Two explanations are possible for this inverse relationship between economists and economic performance. First, it might be argued that academic economists have become little more than fancy quackery. For the first century and a half after Adam Smith, economists dealt with practical questions in a straightforward and useful manner. But in recent decades suspicion has mounted that their product is irrelevant nonsense whose main purpose is to confuse governments and the public.

The prime example of such quackery was the Laffer Curve, invented by the economist Arthur Laffer. Purporting to show that cutting taxes would increase government revenues, the curve was used to rationalize the budget-busting tax cuts in 1981.

Another example is the dubious notion of the Harvard economist Robert Barro that budget deficits do not matter much because people are so rational and foresighted that they increase their savings rates by enough to pay the later taxes to cover the deficit. In fact, during the 1980s, when federal deficits exploded, U.S. private savings rates sank to historic lows, meaning that the deficits were very harmful to the U.S. economy.

The second and more interesting argument is that it is in precisely those countries with troubled economies that students are most attracted to economics, in part because their governments are willing to spend the money on research in the field. Economists also seem to prosper in the same societies that reward lawyers — that is, where there are lots of disagreements over who ought to get what, and how they are going to get it. These are also societies that often have troubled economies — in part because a lot of time and resources are spent fighting over how to divide the pie, time that could otherwise be used to make the pie bigger.

Indeed, in recent years economists have increasingly been employed by lawyers to estimate the value of assets

or financial losses over which court cases are being pursued and litigated. Economists are not totally useless. Those who work on the economics of individual markets, an area known as microeconomics or applied price theory, are often quite successful in suggesting how things can be improved.

Environmental economists, for example, have developed real insights into why private markets fail to deal with pollution, and about how the resulting problems can be eased. Health economists know that the medical system performs badly in part because consumers cannot evaluate their need for a procedure that a doctor has a financial interest in providing, and because a third party, an insurance company, is paying the bill. They also have some insights as to how to make the system work better — although their suggestions tend to be expensive and/or involve the government in regulating what has historically been a private market.

But macroeconomics, which deals with business cycles and other aspects of the entire national economy, is a mess. This is unfortunate, since the typical citizen is interested in the macroeconomy. As a result, the failures of the macroeconomists tend to reflect on the entire profession.

The macroeconomy is not something you can go out and observe directly to see how it behaves, so macroeconomists are especially fond of models. Unfortunately, these models are often based on unrealistic assumptions. Thus even short-term predictions are frequently wrong. Fortunately for the theorists, as the noted economist Albert Hirschman once said, in economics "a model is never defeated by facts, no matter

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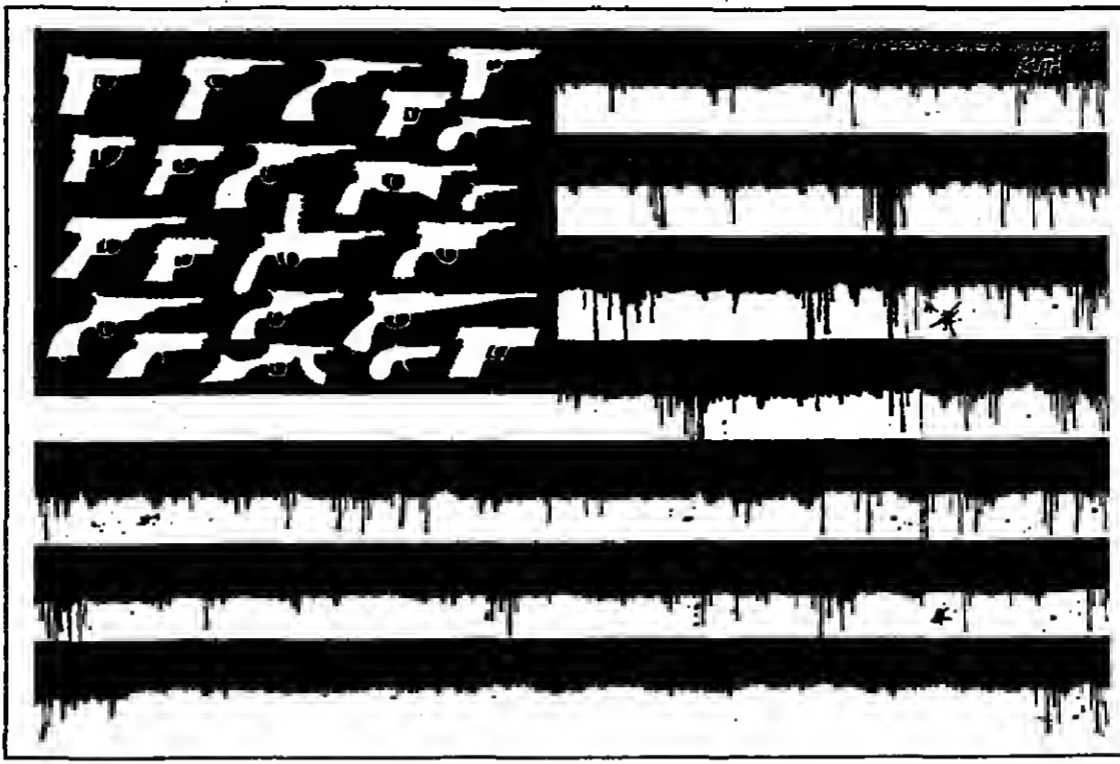
OPINION

Yeltsin: Looking to Locke, He Avoids Kerensky's Path

By George F. Will

WASHINGTON — In London's Putney Vale Cemetery, eight miles south of Marx's grave in Highgate Cemetery, rest the remains of Alexander Kerensky, who might have spared Russia a 70-year secession from civilization. Boris Yeltsin seems to understand the moral of Mr. Kerensky's failure. In July 1917, at a moment of extreme fluidity to the dissolution of the old regime, Alexander Kerensky became Russia's prime minister. Perhaps he would have been brushed aside anyway, but his cautious centrism, his insufficient radicalism, doomed him. He would not remove Russia from the war or boldly multiply property owners by redistributing land. In a matter of months, Bolsheviks, manipulating "workers' councils" pretending to be a legitimate legislative authority, deposed him, using democratic rhetoric to advance totalitarian designs. Mr. Kerensky spent 53 years in exile. Mr. Yeltsin's decision to appeal past today's ersatz legislature (concocted by the dying Communist regime) to the people shows that he will not go quietly along Mr. Kerensky's path. It is not surprising that the sudden collapse of an empire and a secular religion has resulted in chaos, or that the old ruling class of Communists is tenaciously trying to use the new parliamentary forms to regain domination. But time — if Mr. Yeltsin with Western help can buy enough of it — is working against the old guard, for two reasons. One is actual: The old guard is old. The other is that Mr. Yeltsin and the resurgent Russian people are creating intractable facts. Every day brings a thickening of civil society, those private institutions of consensual association and empowerment that enable society to flourish independent of, and if necessary in opposition to, the state. James Billington, the librarian of Congress and a specialist in Russian history, notes that in the Orthodox and other churches, parishes are multiplying more rapidly than priests can be found to administer them. Furthermore, there is under way the largest liquidation sale in history. In 1992 more than 46,815 stores and other state entities were privatized. Mr. Yeltsin aims to sell 8,000 more per month. If the program is not derailed, by the end of the year 150,000 state properties — 25 percent of all state assets — will have been sold. Business Week reports that more than 40 percent of all Russians already are working full or part time in the burgeoning private sector. This is the Second Russian Revolution — a Lockean Revolution, at last. If Russia is to have a democratic order in a consensual society, it must use John Locke to erase Marx's legacy. Locke, the most important intellectual progenitor of

the American Revolution, held that property rights exist prior to government, to which people submit to secure their property. And property is to be understood capiously as "lives, liberties and estates" because property is indispensable to individual independence and security. Private property is the foundation of a right to privacy generally. Some of Mr. Yeltsin's opponents are crypto-fascists, totalitarian opponents of any sphere of privacy. And in January in Washington a Yeltsin adviser warned that if fascism comes to Russia, it will not be a mild form — not Franco's or even Mussolini's — but National Socialism, complete with "ethnic cleansing." Mr. Billington believes that Russia faces a choice of two identities. One is authoritarian nationalism glorifying the state and military, and imposing order from the top down. The other is market-oriented democracy that builds participatory and consensual institutions from the bottom up. Extreme nationalists want Russia to play a role regarding the former Soviet republics comparable to Serbia's role regarding the remnants of Yugoslavia. They would adopt a "Chinese model" of openness to the international economy combined with internal repression. For the United States, says Mr. Billington, the stakes are enormous. The entrepreneurial maritime powers — first England, then the United States — have always tried to prevent authoritarianism from dominating Eurasia and reducing democratic societies on the Eurasian periphery to vassalage. If Russia becomes locked in nationalist conflict with the other parts of its former empire, the former Muslim republics may become similarly radicalized for self-protection. This could tip the Middle East's balance toward the Iranian rather than the Turkish model. Mr. Billington believes that even Germany, balanced uneasily between East and West, could be pulled away from its postwar democratic identity, toward a Eurasian pattern of autocracy. If so, the United States might become a marginalized, merely regional power. Mr. Yeltsin's decision to dash, by means of extraconstitutional decrees and a referendum, toward completion of the anti-socialist revolution has coincided with a crushing electoral repudiation of Europe's last unrepentant socialist party. This repudiation occurred Sunday in France, that nation of perpetual political ferment, where Rousseau and the French Revolution infected modern politics with utopianism, and Fourier and Saint-Simon gave that delusion a socialist cast. Today, to shake off the dead hand of all that, Mr. Yeltsin is listening, as it were, to Locke, a father of American liberty. Boris Yeltsin's fight is ours. Washington Post Writers Group.



Guns: Stop the Carnage, Ban the Damn Things

By Molly Ivins

AUSTIN, Texas — Guns. Everywhere guns. But let me first point out that I am not anti-gun. I'm pro-knife. Consider the merits of the knife. You have to catch up with someone to stab him. A general substitution of knives for guns would promote physical fitness.

Those who claim to follow the judicial doctrine of original intent. How do they know it was Thomas Jefferson's dearest wish that teenage drug dealers should cruise the nation's cities perforating their fellow citizens with assault rifles? The reasons for keeping guns away from everyone but members of well-regulated militias get clearer by the day. An often-used comparison is that of the automobile, another lethal object regularly used to wreak great carnage. Society is full of people who have not got enough sense to use an automobile properly. But we haven't outlawed cars. We do, however, license them and their owners, restrict their use to presumably sane and sober adults and keep track of who sells them to whom. At a minimum, we should do the same with guns. There is no rational argument for guns in American society. This is no longer a frontier nation in which people hunt to eat. It is a crowded, overwhelmingly urban country in which letting people have access to guns is a continuing disaster. Those who want guns — whether for target shooting or hunting — should be subject to the same restrictions placed on gun owners in Britain, a nation in which liberty has survived nicely without an armed populace. The argument that "guns don't kill people" is nonsense. Think of how many family arguments end in murder because there was a gun in the house. Did the gun kill someone? No. If there had been no gun, one would have died — at least not without a good footcure first. Guns do kill. Unlike cars, that is all they do. In his thriller "Jurassic Park," Michael Crichton points out that power without discipline is making society a wreck. By the time someone becomes a martial arts master — literally able to kill with his bare hands — that person has undergone years of training and discipline. But any fool can pick up a gun and kill with it. "A well-regulated militia" surely implies long training and discipline. That is the least that should be required of those who are permitted to have guns, because a gun is literally the power to kill. I used to enjoy taunting my gun-owning friends about their psychosocial hangups — always in a spirit of good cheer, you understand. But letting the noisy minority in the National Rifle Association force us to allow this carnage to continue is just plain insane. I do think gun outs have a power hangup. I don't know what is missing in their psyches that they need to feel they have the power to kill. But no sane society would allow this to continue. Ban the damn things. Ban them all. You want protection? Get a dog. The writer is a columnist for the Fort Worth Star-Telegram.

MEANWHILE

Plus, knives don't ricochet. And few people are killed while cleaning knives. I support the Second Amendment: "A well-regulated militia being necessary to the security of a free state, the right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed." But 14-year-old boys are not part of a well-regulated militia. Members of wacky religious cults are not part of a well-regulated militia. Permitting unregulated citizens to have guns is destroying the security of this free state. I am intrigued by the arguments of

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Inside Germany

What is so disturbing about the recent voting in the German state of Hesse is not that the far right scored nearly 10 percent, but that this came as a surprise to so many people. Why did it? Weren't the 2,000 violent acts against foreigners in Germany sufficient warning? Did those hundreds of thousands marching to protest such violence think that by lighting candles, hatred would be overcome? Did they think that wearing the slogan "My Friend Is a Foreigner" on soccer uniforms would stem bigotry? Singing "We Shall Overcome" hardly turned the tide against racial hatred and violence in America. There are racists and bigots in America, but we don't call them "Neo-Bigots" or "Neo-Racists" — they're racists and bigots. The people who advocate and practice violence against foreigners in Germany are not "Neo-Anything," they are Nazis. And there is nothing new about Nazism in Germany. Desecration of Jewish cemeteries is not new, violence against foreigners is not new, hatred and arrogance are not new. They are only now rising to the surface again, to the extent that people are finally taking notice. There is a cancer in Germany, but it is not new. It's only now becoming dangerously malignant. It will do no good to cover it with a Band-Aid, or point to another stricken soul and say he suffers too. The only way to treat the disease is to admit that it is there, and then start rigorous treatment. What is needed is for people to look around them, beyond the obvious signs — the murders and beatings — to the everyday examples of hatred and bigotry,

The Pope Is No Help

Anthony Lewis's warning, "Where Will We Put the Next Three Billion?" (Opinion, Feb. 20), accords with a recent statement by the eminent French humanitarian Léon Schwarzenberg that the Pope's condemnation of birth control amounts to "nonassistance to a person in danger" — a punishable offense in France. One wonders how many of your readers would agree that the Pope could usefully be replaced by someone with a less irresponsible attitude toward Planet Earth. NESTA COMBER, Venice, France.

From Tragedy, Hope

In Bosnia, thousands of babies conceived by rape will be born this year. Most will be rejected by their mothers and their communities. They are doomed to miserable lives. Elsewhere, thousands of childless couples are desperately trying to adopt. If the two groups could somehow be brought together, it would do little for the raped mothers, but it would change hellish lives into beautiful ones for the children, and for their adoptive parents. ALBERT REISS, Le Chesnay, France.

Burma Can Be Pressed

In response to the report "Nobelists Call for Sanctions on Burma" (Feb. 20): Remember the sanctions against South Africa. Although they were not necessarily carried out perfectly, they forced the white minority regime to repeal apartheid laws and to negotiate for a future nonracial South Africa even if many obstacles remain. Next is Burma, whose military junta has been totally neglecting democracy. Comprehensive sanctions are the best way to remove the cancer. IWAKAWA YASUHISA, Chiba, Japan.

No, Taiwan Is Not China

Regarding "Taiwan Is China" (Letters, March 5) from Chih-Chien Hsu: Taiwan is not China. The people of Taiwan feel natural affinity with China and Chinese culture, but they do not wish to be under Chinese rule. The two countries should live and let live, like brothers, closely related and friendly but living in separate houses. Neither should try to dominate — let alone conquer — the other. C. K. TIEN, Toronto.

All for Love

In your issue of Feb. 13 you devote a full page and a half to the murder of a certain Kenneth P. Love. Except for his being (I suppose) a friend of important people in Washington, I don't see how Mr. Love's life could be of any interest to your readers. Very frankly this article

was more a tribute to friendship than a contribution to journalism.

PHILIPPE ROCHEFORT, Neuilly-sur-Seine, France.

Choice, Pro and Anti

Regarding "A Woman's Right Prevails" (Letters, March 9) from C.A. Walters: There is a danger in employing the language of human rights in the service of abortion activism. It hides the fact that a life is lost. It muddles our thinking about the innate value of human life. We "anti-choicers" are alarmed by the ethic of unbridled individual rights that informs much of the pro-choice thinking. We fear that if the rights of the defenseless are not protected, then all of our rights are undermined. HANS JACOBSE, Thessaloniki, Greece.

In today's world, where overpopulation is behind so many of society's ills, it would be more humane if "pro-life" advocates would channel their fervor and financial resources into positive, not negative, efforts — becoming "pro quality of life." FAITH M. TOWLE, St. George, Switzerland.

The Elite Elite

Regarding "Britain: Demoralized, Let Down by Mediocre Elites" (Opinion, Feb. 23) by William F. Hoff: Yes, Britain is demoralized by a "mediocre elite," the same "mediocre elite" demoralizing the whole world. ANNE STANFORD, Palma de Mallorca, Spain.



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EUROPEAN TOPICS

The Changing Face Of European Families

Europeans are getting married less often and later, having fewer children and living longer. Since 1960, the rate of marriages among EC inhabitants has fallen from 7.8 per 1,000 to 5.9, and the average age at first marriage has risen from 25.6 to 27.3 for men and from 23 to 25 for women. The size of the average family has fallen so dramatically that only Ireland and Sweden among major countries exceed the replacement rate of 2.1 children per woman.

Louis Roussel, a French demography expert, says new birth-control techniques are only partly responsible for smaller families. Increasingly important are economic, social and educational factors, which are changing people's notion of what a family is and what they are willing to sacrifice to have one.

Meanwhile, an EC study has found that the number of people over 60 has risen by half over the past 30 years and will grow by half again in the next 30. The EC's population of older people could reach 100 million at that time, with a quarter of those people over 80.

Around Europe

Twenty years after the publication of his novella "A Clockwork Orange," the English novelist Anthony Burgess has finally concluded that art can be dangerous. His hook, and its screen adaptation by Stanley Kubrick, had brought charges against both men of "concocting a piece of violent pornography," as Mr. Burgess writes in The Observer of London. Indeed, the film, full of stylized and mindless violence, was banned in Britain, though in no other country.

The novelist had long argued that some of the greatest literature — from the Bible to Shakespeare's "Titus Andronicus" —



NEXT STOP, PARIS? — Pamela Harriman, who has been named ambassador to France and would be the first woman in the job. It was also announced that Raymond G. H. Seitz, the first career foreign service officer to serve as U.S. ambassador to Britain, will remain in his post.

contained vivid scenes of rape, mutilation and massacre — and that in any case, "aggression was built into the human system and could not be taught by a book, film or play."

But, he concludes, "we all bow now, anyway, to a thesis I thought I would never accept — that art is dangerous."

Drug trafficking is up sharply in Austria, officials say. The clearest proof is a stark rise in drug-related deaths, from 62 in Vienna two years ago to 94 last year; and from 5 in the Austrian capital in the first 2 months of last year to 23 in the corresponding period this year. Der Spiegel of Hamburg reports. The easier availability of drugs is also reflected in

sharply lower street prices: A gram of heroin now costs less than a third what it did two years ago. The police attribute the change to the lowering of borders with the former East-bloc nations, and to a vigorous traffic in drugs to help finance fighting in the former Yugoslavia.

Remember "A Boy Named Sue," the Johnny Cash song about a child who grew up punching people who laughed at his name? Not likely in Germany, where parents are forbidden by law to choose names that blur gender or otherwise "endanger the well-being of the child." Names that didn't make the cut last year were recently cited in an annual survey, quoted by The

New York Times. Among the rejected were Bierstübl ("beer-hall"), Störentfried ("disturber of the peace"), and Whoopy. According to The Week in Germany, riskier names aren't altogether out of the question. It cites "a case in Munich, in which parents were able to persuade a judge to allow them to name their child 'Cougar.'"

A Venice court has ordered an overly conscientious employee to take some time off — for the first time in 28 years. The man, identified only as Athos, said, "I like my work." If he takes all the time due him, he will return to his claims-office job in late 1996.

Brian Knowlton

Mitterrand Said to See Staying as a 'Duty'

By William Drozdiak

Washington Post Service

PARIS — A close ally of François Mitterrand's said Wednesday that the French president would spur demands to leave office from conservative opponents who expect to form a new government next week and "will not retire one minute" before his mandate expires in 1995.

The departing justice minister, Michel Vauzelle, who is one of the president's most trusted advisers, said Mr. Mitterrand believed his continued presence was vital for the country "in order to provide the proper democratic balance" to the overwhelming majority that a new center-right government will enjoy in the legislature.

"His duty is to stay," Mr. Vauzelle said. "The nation has given him a mandate that the constitution fixes at seven years. He intends to serve his country."

Mr. Vauzelle's comments provided the strongest evidence so far that the 76-year-old president plans to remain head of state despite a continuing battle with cancer and the looming conflict with a hostile government.

The Gaullist leader Jacques Chirac, who is ahead in opinion polls among likely presidential candidates, said Tuesday that "it would be in Mitterrand's own interest to resign" in light of the crushing defeat inflicted on his Socialist Party in the first round of parliamentary elections Sunday.

The opposition alliance linking Mr. Chirac's Rally for the Republic with former President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing's Union for French Democracy expects to control between 440 and 480 of the National Assembly's 577 seats after a runoff vote is held Sunday. The Socialists may win fewer than 70 seats; in the previous legislature they held 276.

But Mr. Chirac's appeal was contradicted on Wednesday by Mr. Giscard d'Estaing, who harbors ambitions of recapturing the presidency and avenging Mr. Mitterrand's defeat of him in 1981. Mr. Giscard d'Estaing had urged Mr. Mitterrand to resign months ago but, with Mr. Chirac holding the advantage in opinion polls, he now says it would be better for Mr. Mitterrand to finish his second term.

"If we wanted to obtain the departure of Mitterrand," he said, "we should have said so before the elections and alerted the voters to the consequences we would draw from their votes."

"We must respect the constitution," Mr. Mitterrand said. "Despite the Socialist defeat, Mr. Mitterrand appears confident that he will be able to exploit his presidential powers during the forthcoming 'cohabitation' with an opposition government to divide and conquer his rivals on the right."

Besides the personal rivalry between Mr. Chirac and Mr. Giscard d'Estaing, there are sharp policy differences that may soon arise after being camouflaged in the legislative program unveiled by the center-right coalition before the election.

Mr. Chirac's party is taking a hard-line stand in defense of French farming interests, even at the cost of killing hopes of reaching a global trade accord and provoking a crisis with France's partner in the European Community. Mr. Giscard d'Estaing wants to renegotiate the EC's recent farm reforms, but he and his party ardently believe in European integration and worry about the chauvinistic tendencies of their Gaullist partners.

Aides say that Mr. Mitterrand will exercise his full presidential prerogatives in determining foreign and defense policy, and intends to use his remaining time in office to instill fresh momentum in the drive for European unity. He will not be perturbed, aides say, if any new initiatives on Europe should cause trouble for the ruling conservative coalition.

At a farewell meeting with Socialist ministers that participants described as emotional, Mr. Mitterrand analyzed the reasons behind the Socialists' cataclysmic defeat. The president reportedly deplored the failure of the Socialists to heed his advice and approve a proportional voting system that would have greatly cut the margin of their loss.

He also thanked the cabinet, led by Prime Minister Pierre Bérégovoy, for work performed under difficult circumstances. "You've served the republic; you've served a great idea," Mr. Mitterrand said, according to a government spokesman, Louis Mermaz.

Egypt Secretly Extradites N.Y. Bombing Suspect

By Chris Hedges

New York Times Service

CAIRO — The Egyptian man alleged to be the ringleader in the bombing of the World Trade Center in New York was turned over to U.S. agents in Cairo on Wednesday and flown back to the United States, Egyptian officials said.

The arrest and extradition of Mahmud Abu Halima, 34, was handled by the country's intelligence service and remained a secret until Mr. Halima left Cairo.

Federal officials described Mr. Halima as a New York City taxi driver and said he arrived at Stewart Airport in Newburgh, New York, north of New York City, Wednesday night. He was to be arraigned Thursday. The Associated Press reported from New York.

"He is probably more involved in this bombing than any of the other ones we have arrested so far," a federal investigator said. He said at least two more suspects were being sought.

The investigator said Mr. Halima oversaw the operation in which a bomb loaded in a rented van was detonated in a parking garage beneath the trade center.

Although Mr. Halima had apparently been arrested on March 14, according to one official, security officials reportedly denied that they had any information or knowledge about the suspect.

Government officials, according to those close to the investigation,

feared a possible backlash by Islamic militants if the detention and extradition of Mr. Halima became public before he left the country.

Mr. Halima is the fourth suspect arrested in connection with the Feb. 26 bombing that left six dead and more than 1,000 wounded.

He has close ties with the militant Egyptian cleric, Sheikh Omar Abdel Rahman, who calls for the violent overthrow of the govern-

ment of President Hosni Mubarak. The radical cleric is closely tied with the main militant organization, the Islamic Group.

The capture was a coup for security forces that have been unable in recent months to break the back of an increasingly violent militant Islamic movement.

It was unclear, however, whether the Egyptians had stumbled onto Mr. Halima, capturing him in a

roundup of militant suspects and later discovering his identity, or lain in wait for him when he arrived in Egypt. There was no word on the whereabouts of Mr. Halima's German-born wife and four children, who reportedly fled to Egypt with him shortly after the arrest of the first bombing suspect, Mohammed A. Salameh, in New Jersey.

There was no explanation of the legal basis for the extradition.

Weizman Gains Israeli Presidency

By Clyde Haberman

New York Times Service

JERUSALEM — Ezer Weizman, a blunt-talking swashbuckler who evolved from a hawkish general into a leading voice for peace with the Arabs, was elected Israel's seventh president Wednesday by a parliament that for a while was the gang that couldn't vote straight.

A befuddled and embarrassed legislature had to vote twice because the first time, for reasons unclear, it wound up with 124 ballots being cast — four more than its membership.

But in the end everything came out as expected. Mr. Weizman, 68, a former defense minister and air force commander who had quit politics a year ago, completed his comeback by defeating Dov Shilansky, a former parliament speaker. The vote was 66 to 53, with one ballot blank.

The new president's five-year term will begin on May 12, when he succeeds Chaim Herzog, who has held the basically ceremonial, but potentially influential, position for the last decade.

Also Wednesday, the opposition Likud party held its first nationwide primary to choose a head of the party, with Benjamin Netanyahu, a former deputy foreign minister, strongly favored to finish first in a four-candidate field. The main question seemed to be whether he would win a 40 percent share of the vote, which is needed to avoid a runoff, but that will not be answered until the ballots are counted Thursday.

Although the presidency has no real power, except to pardon criminals, it can be an important forum, and Mr. Weizman, who was a driving force behind the 1978 Camp David peace accords between Israel and Egypt, has hinted that he will use the office as a bully pulpit.

In the past, he called for more rapid strides toward peace with Israel's Arab neighbors and direct negotiations with the Palestine Liberation Organization. He himself was said to have talked with the PLO in 1989, when such contacts were illegal, and although he never confirmed or denied the reports, he was forced out of a left-right unity government.

WEAPONS: South Africa Says It Built and Destroyed 6 Nuclear Bombs

(Continued from page 1)

government, said Wednesday that it approved of abolishing South Africa's atomic weapons, but that it was skeptical of Mr. de Klerk's claims to have disposed of all of the country's bomb-grade uranium.

Government officials said it was only last weekend that the last batch of technical documents relating to the bomb program — including minutes of meetings where important decisions were made — were destroyed.

Officials said the decision to develop atomic weapons was taken by Prime Minister John

Vorster at the urging of Pieter W. Botha, then the defense minister and president from 1979 to 1989.

Mr. de Klerk said knowledge of the program had been restricted to a handful of ministers.

The decision to build seven bombs, the minimum deemed necessary for a "credible deterrent capability," was made "against the background of a Soviet expansionist threat in southern Africa," Mr. de Klerk said, as well as "South Africa's relative international isolation and the fact that it could not rely on outside assistance, should it be attacked."

Security Crackdown Planned

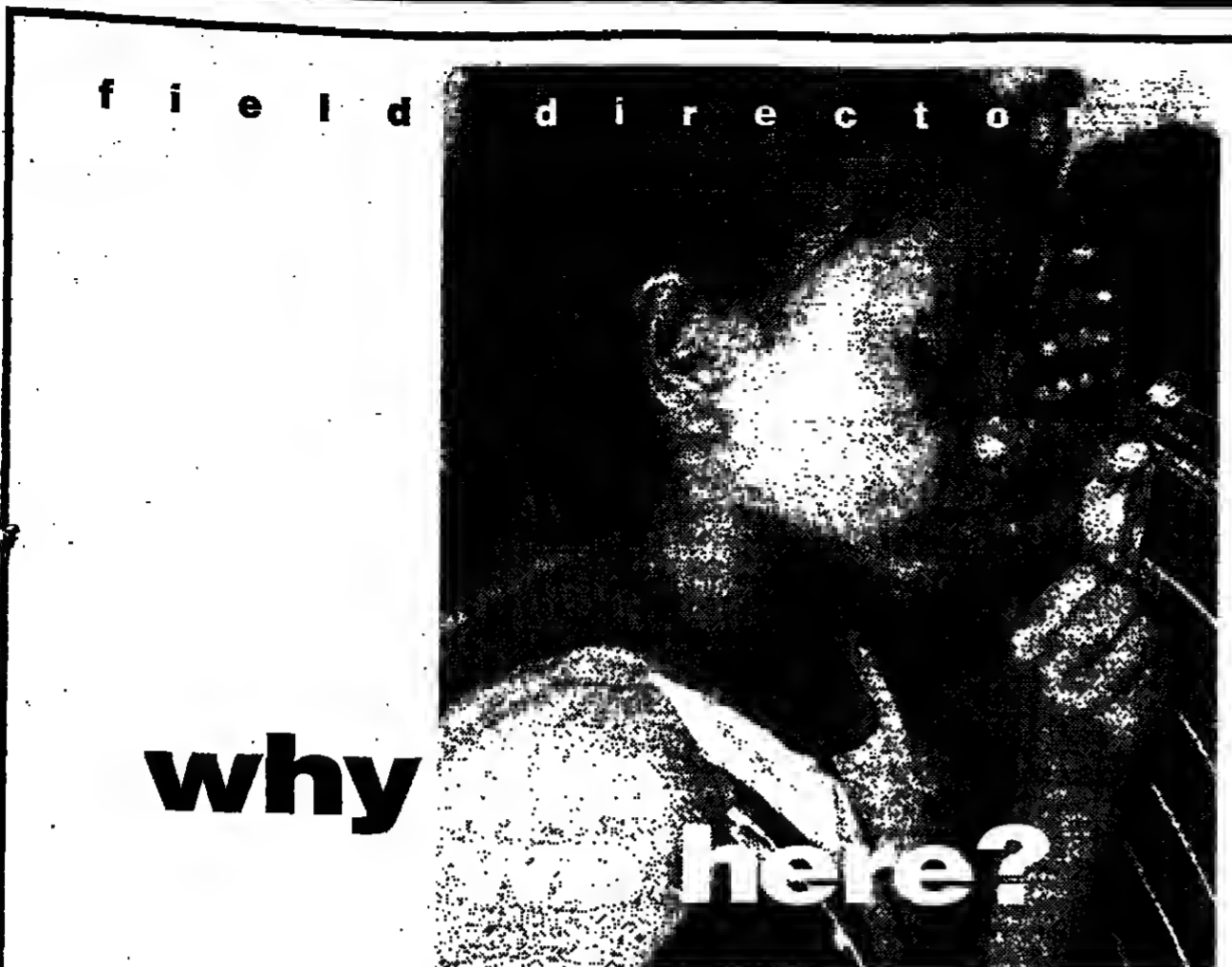
Mr. de Klerk told Parliament that he would mobilize military reservists to help police in a crackdown on "barbaric" political violence, including the murders of children. Reuters reported from Cape Town.

Mr. de Klerk said the police were holding 18 members of the Azanian People's Liberation Army, the military wing of the black-supremacist Pan-Africanist Congress.

He said reservists would be called up to drastically increase the manpower of the security forces.



INTERNATIONAL RECRUITMENT



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with the purpose, direction and resources to achieve the best results. And in providing the vital link between central thinking and local action, your input will be invaluable in helping us to plan our strategic development. It takes strong leadership qualities whether in motivating your teams, developing local partnerships or - where necessary - influencing administrators. But it - and only it - you can bring us several years' experience of managing local development overseas, we'll give you the scope to use it. To find out about our available overseas Field Director positions, salaries (normally tax-free) and generous benefits - including flights, living and accommodation expenses - write to Leonie Morton, Overseas Personnel Manager, SCF, 17 Grove Lane, London, SE5 8RD. Fax: 071-733 7626. Please quote ref GA11HT. SCF aims to be an equal opportunities employer.

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Advertisement for 'DIRECTEUR DE NOS DEUX USINES' in Reims, France. The ad is in French and describes a position for a director of two industrial plants. It mentions 'Blanchisserie Industrielle' and 'Tunisie'. Contact information for MIRENO INTERNATIONAL is provided.

Advertisement for 'VIDEO PRODUCER/AUDIO-VISUAL' in Washington, D.C. The ad is in English and describes a position for a video producer at the International Monetary Fund. It lists requirements such as a graduate degree and experience in video production. Contact information for the Recruitment Division is provided.

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Advertisement for 'GERBER SCIENTIFIC PRODUCTS, INC.' in Munich, Germany. The ad is for a 'EUROPEAN SALES MANAGER' position. It lists responsibilities such as sales and marketing in Europe/Mid-East. Contact information for GSP GmbH is provided.

Advertisement for 'INTERNATIONAL SALES AGENTS'. The ad is for a 'GLOBAL SERVICES' position. It lists responsibilities such as telecommunication and travel related services. Contact information for GLOBAL SERVICES is provided.

REGIONAL MANAGER for Lebanon, no less than 10 years experience in General Insurance and life insurance in re-insurance is necessary. Please fax resume to: Fax: 33 1 45 01 21 310

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Advertisement for 'Place Your Classified Ad Quickly and Easily in the INTERNATIONAL HERALD TRIBUNE'. The ad lists various office locations and contact information for advertising in the newspaper. Locations include Copenhagen, Helsinki, Amsterdam, Athens, Bergen, Brussels, Frankfurt, London, Madrid, Milan, Stockholm, Vienna, New York, Chicago, Toronto, Buenos Aires, Costa Rica, United Arab Emirates, Middle East, and Australia.

Advertisement for 'Working in France' by Frank Books. The ad describes a book that provides a guide to job hunting and career success in France. It lists the price as \$14.95 US, 88 FF, and 19.99 £. Contact information for Frank Books is provided.

Advertisement for 'Are you a company/recruitment consultancy looking for a candidate who?'. The ad lists several criteria for a candidate, such as being multilingual, having international education, and being well-traveled. It encourages companies to advertise in the International Recruitment section of the IHT. Contact information for Max Ferrero is provided.

Advertisement for 'Herald Tribune'. The ad lists contact information for the newspaper, including the address in Paris and the phone and fax numbers. It also mentions the 'RECRUITING WITHOUT FRONTIERS' section.

HEALTH / SCIENCE

Huntington's Disease: Gene Identified

Portrait of a Fatal Disease

What is Huntington's disease? Huntington's disease, or Huntington's chorea, involves degeneration of the basal ganglia, a pair of nerve clusters deep in the brain. It causes progressive, debilitating symptoms: chorea, which is rapid, jerky, involuntary motion, and dementia, accompanied by personality changes, memory loss and irritability.

How is it passed on? Scientists now know that the disease involves an inherited mutation that produces extra copies of a gene sequence on chromosome 4. Each child of a parent with the disease has a 50 percent risk of inheriting it.

Who gets it? The disease is known to affect about 30,000 Americans; 150,000 more are at risk.

When does it appear? It typically strikes in the third to the fifth decade but may appear earlier or later.

What is the outlook? The disease, which is incurable, is eventually fatal, usually in 10 to 20 years after it appears. Research suggests that severity and age at onset are linked to the number of repetitions of the mutated sequence, but further research is needed to confirm the theory.



By Natalie Angier New York Times Service

NEW YORK — After 10 years in a research purgatory of false leads, failed experiments and long stretches of despair, an international team of scientists says it has discovered the most coveted treasure in molecular biology, the gene behind Huntington's disease.

tiny segment of the gene is abnormally expanded and repeated over and over. Researchers emphasized that much work needed to be done before they could use the mutation as any sort of precise prognostic tool. Now does the finding of the gene mean that a treatment for the disease is imminent.

The next step in research is to find out how the protein produced by the normal version of the Huntington's gene works in the body, and why the expanding mutation within the gene has such catastrophic consequences.

Hospital and the leader of the collaboration, came up with a so-called marker for Huntington's gene and because of the publicity engendered by the movie.

Deciphering the Tale Of a Pre-Mayan Lord

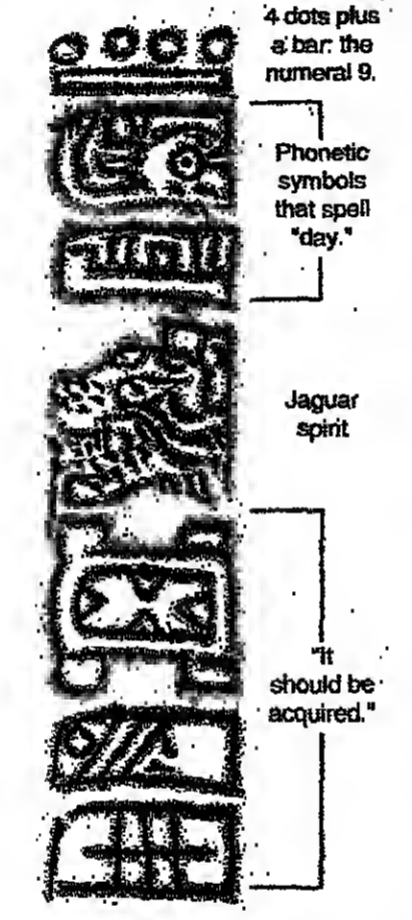
By John Noble Wilford New York Times Service

NEW YORK — There once was a warrior by the name of Harvest Mountain Lord. He lived in a hot, humid land by the bend in a river that flowed into another river that ran to the sea.

tant but little-understood epoch in Mesoamerican cultural history. These are the centuries between the waning of the Olmec society, which flourished from 1200 to 500 B.C., and the Classic Period civilizations of the Mayans and others, beginning about A.D. 300.

Another Tale From Ancient Stone

Researchers interpret this excerpt from the recently translated epi-Olmec stela as part of a description of a ritual. It instructs a king that 'nine days later a jaguar spirit should be acquired.'



Sources: Images rendered from an original photograph from the Center for Maya Research; Interpretation by John Justeson.

New Drug Slows Multiple Sclerosis

By Barry James International Herald Tribune

AFTER hundreds of proposed cures have been tried and rejected, researchers are still no closer to a cure for multiple sclerosis, the progressive neurological disease, but there is now a serious hope that the debilitating and fatal disorder can be held in check.

dystrophy or A.L.D., is developing what it hopes will be a similar dietary means of controlling multiple sclerosis. Scientists disagree on the value of the diet.

working on a similar product to treat multiple sclerosis came to light because of the publicity engendered by the movie.

Breakthrough on Malaria Vaccine

By James Brooke New York Times Service

BOGOTA — Working in laboratories housed in a Victorian-era hospital building here, a Colombian physician may have unexpectedly jumped to the front of a world race for a vaccine against one of the planet's deadliest diseases: malaria.

As appealing as the prospect of learning more about the Olmecs may be, Dr. Justeson, an archaeologist and computer scientist, and Dr. Kaufman, an anthropological linguist, were cautious about possible archaeological implications of their work.

Working on a similar product to treat multiple sclerosis

came to light because of the publicity engendered by the movie. The new oil would act to reduce the rate at which, in multiple sclerosis, a fatty coating called myelin is progressively lost from nerve cells.

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Today's INTERNATIONAL RECRUITMENT. Appears on Page 7. PERSONALS, MOVING, AGS, ANNOUNCEMENTS.

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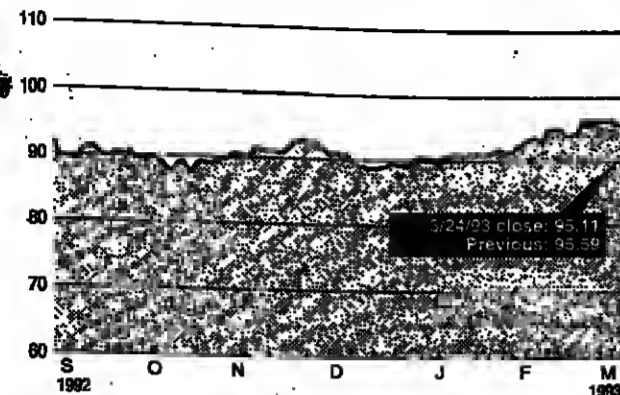
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International Herald Tribune World Stock Index composed of 230 internationally investable stocks from 20 countries, compiled by Bloomberg Business News, Jan. 1, 1992 = 100.



The index tracks U.S. dollar values of stocks in: Tokyo, New York, London, and Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Hong Kong, Italy, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Singapore, Spain, Sweden and Switzerland.

In the case of Tokyo, New York and London, the index is composed of the 20 top issues in terms of market capitalization. In the remaining 17 countries, the ten top stocks are tracked.

Table with 3 columns: Asia/Pacific, Europe, N. America. Each column has a line graph and a table of values.

Table titled 'Industrial Sectors' with columns for Energy, Utilities, Finance, Services, Capital Goods, New Materials, Consumer Goods, and Miscellaneous.

For readers desiring more information about the International Herald Tribune World Stock Index, a booklet is available free of charge by writing to Trib Index, 181 Avenue Charles de Gaulle, 92221 Neuilly Cedex, France.

Tokyo Fires Back At Clinton On Trade

By James Sterngold, New York Times Service

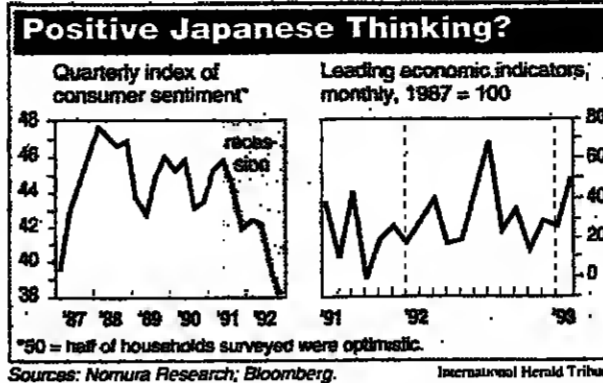
TOKYO — Escalating the trans-Pacific war of words, Japan met tough trade talks with President Bill Clinton with tough talk of its own Wednesday, angrily rejecting assertions that the Japanese market was closed and threatening a legal battle if the U.S. administration imposed new tariffs on imports of Japanese minivans.

The latest exchange was sparked by comments Mr. Clinton made at a press conference Tuesday in which he kept to his administration's combative tone on trade relations with Japan. Asked if he had dropped his campaign pledge of sharply increasing tariffs on imported Japanese minivans, by reclassifying them as trucks rather than autos, Mr. Clinton criticized the Bush administration's decision not to take this step and said he was reviewing the issue.

Budding Rebound in Japan? Series of Signals Points to Fragile Recovery

By Paul Blustein, Washington Post Service

TOKYO — Listen carefully and you may hear the Japanese economy hitting bottom. For the past two weeks, the steady drumbeat of bad economic news has subsided, supplanted by a spate of favorable tidings. The Tokyo stock market, which has been propped up by government intervention, has risen on fairly heavy trading volume by more than 10 percent since March 4.



ing to the longest recession in Japan's postwar history, others see these and other recent developments as indicating that the worst is over, or nearly so. "Is this something real? I think so," said Robert Feldman, chief economist at Salomon Brothers (Asia) Ltd. "The indicators seem to be turning the right way, government policy is clearly turning the right way and sentiment is improving."

Belgian Government May Become A Victim of EC Currency Turmoil

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

BRUSSELS — The Belgian government teetered on the brink of collapse Wednesday in a budget crisis brought on by the currency turmoil in Europe. If the government did fall, it would be the first to do so as a result of trying to meet the exacting single-currency targets of the Maastricht treaty on closer European union.

It might also mean that Belgium would assume the rotating EC presidency from Denmark in July without a functioning government. The Belgian franc, one of the stronger currencies in the eight-currency EC grid, slipped to fifth place from fourth on Wednesday morning but then recovered to fourth again.

Agency announced Tuesday that the leading economic indicators for January went up, hitting the 50 percent level — the so-called "boom-or-bust" line — for the first time in 10 months. An index consistently above that level usually signifies an expanding economy three to six months ahead, while a consistently lower index usually signifies contraction.

INTERNATIONAL MANAGER

The Credo at North West: Water's Water Everywhere

By Erik Ipsen, International Herald Tribune

WARRINGTON, England — British tap water is clean, clean (one hopes) and rarely considered a promising topic for scintillating conversation. Except, that is, at the newly refurbished Warrington headquarters of North West Water.

Three years after it was privatized, North West Water, one of the five largest water companies in the world, is much slimmer, far less bureaucratic and — hold on to your faucets — actually exciting.

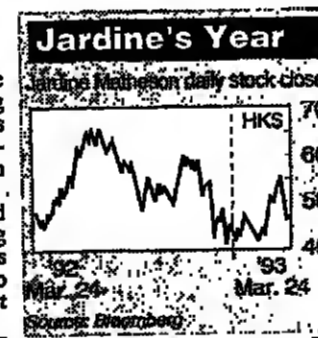
Share analysts who follow the company admit they don't exactly know what to think of Mr. Thian. "He is certainly not a born and bred water and waste man," said Daniel Martin of Robert Fleming Securities, who describes the water-company executive as "more aggressive, more of a visionary." Another analyst confesses that Mr. Thian is the only utility executive, among the scores he deals with, whom he approaches with "fear and trepidation," an outgrowth of what he refers to as Mr. Thian's "macho management" style.

Jardine Is Looking Back Toward China

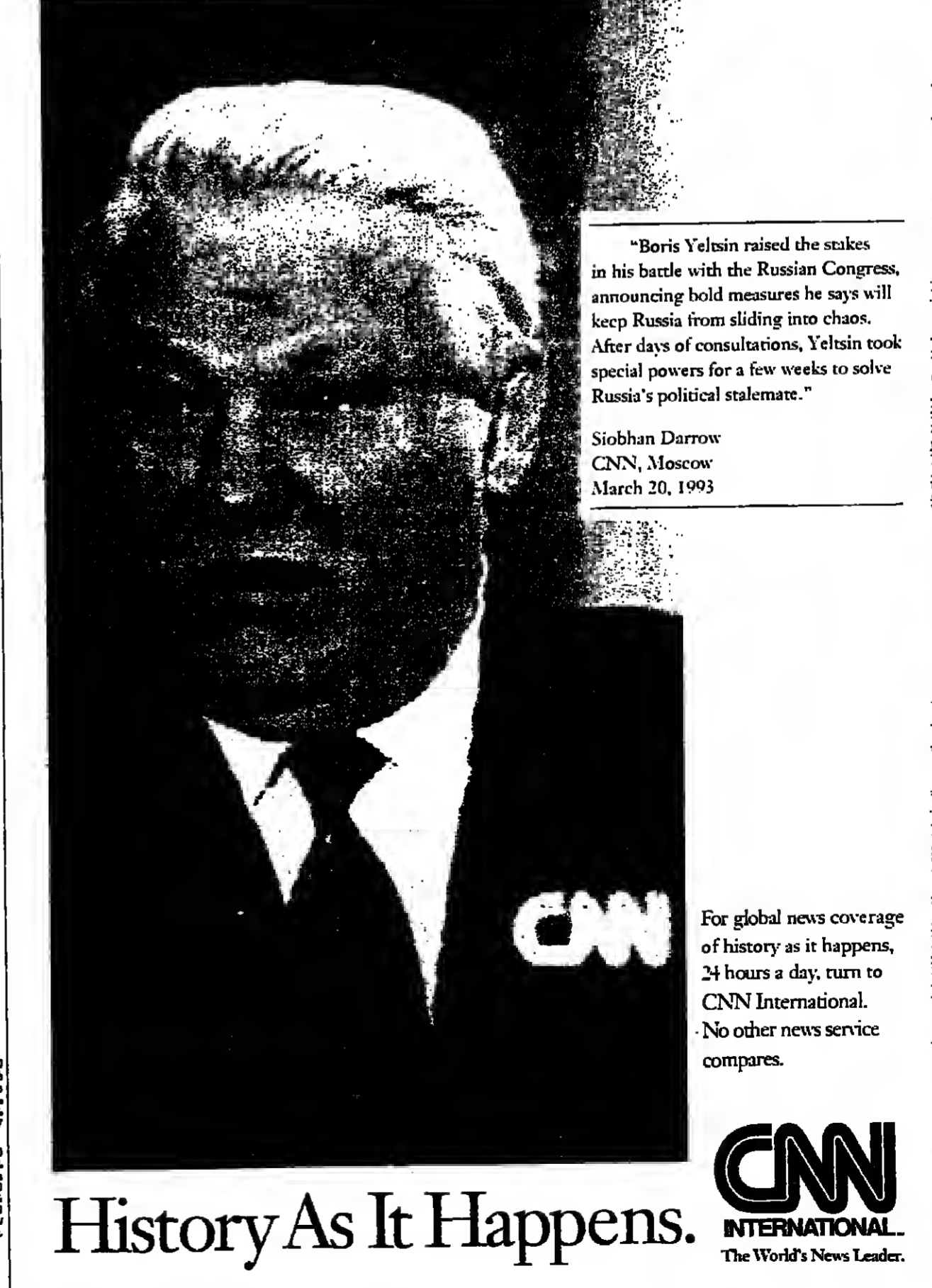
By Kevin Murphy, International Herald Tribune

HONG KONG — Jardine Matheson Holdings Ltd., reporting Wednesday a strong 1992 earnings performance, said it hoped to aggressively expand its business in China.

But Hong Kong's oldest and most British bong, or trading group, which has shown wariness of the mainland lately, provided no evidence of just how it would chart such a reverse course. Jardine Matheson reported a 17 percent increase in profit, to \$316 million, and a 14 percent rise in its dividend, slightly better than most analysts' expectations.



"We intend to vigorously pursue our whole range of businesses in China," said Mr. Rich, playing down the Sino-British dispute over political reform in Hong Kong and its fallout for the company. "We very much hope Jardine Matheson can continue to get on with its business in China."



"Boris Yeltsin raised the stakes in his battle with the Russian Congress, announcing bold measures he says will keep Russia from sliding into chaos. After days of consultations, Yeltsin took special powers for a few weeks to solve Russia's political stalemate."

Siobhan Darrow, CNN, Moscow, March 20, 1993

CURRENCY & INTEREST RATES

Large table containing financial data: Cross Rates, Eurocurrency Deposits, Key Money Rates, Other Dollar Values, Forward Rates, and Gold prices.

Advertisement for CNN International. Text: 'History As It Happens. For global news coverage of history as it happens, 24 hours a day, turn to CNN International. No other news service compares.' Includes CNN logo and contact information.

MARKET DIARY

Drug Stocks Slide On Merck Warning

Bloomberg Business News NEW YORK — U.S. stocks fell Wednesday for a third consecutive session on the New York Stock Exchange, after a profit warning from Merck & Co. triggered widespread selling in drug shares.

Higher Treasury bond yields and lingering concern about the political situation in Russia also drove stocks lower, traders said. After drug stocks, computer issues, led by International Business Machines Corp., posted the biggest losses.

"There are a number of things burling the market," said Thomas Gallagher, managing director in charge of capital commitment at Oppenheimer & Co. "Bonds are going down, and stocks are under pressure because of the drug."

Merck plunged \$2.125 to \$34.875, after bottoming at \$33.75, its lowest level in two years. The company, the world's largest drug-maker, said 1993 earnings would come in below investors' expecta-

tions. IBM plunged \$3 to \$51.25, but Microsoft gained \$3.125 to \$86.25 and Apple rose \$1 to \$53.75.

The Dow Jones industrial average finished 0.69 of a point lower at 448.07. The Nasdaq Composite Index lost 0.67 of a point to 674.37.

Stocks had opened higher on news of an unexpectedly large rise of 2.2 percent in February durable-goods orders. "This report is certainly good news in that it means the economy is getting stronger," said Tony Cecin, director of trading at Piper, Jaffray & Hoopes Inc.

Treasury bonds fell after the durable goods report, stabilized briefly, and then dropped further, although the Treasury's sale of \$15.25 billion in two-year notes drew an average yield that was lower than expected. The yield on the benchmark 30-year bond was 6.81 percent, up four basis points on the day.

Wednesday's loss extended off by skittishness about the political battle between President Boris Yeltsin and the Russian parliament. "There's always the freak-out factor," said Philip Smyth, a market analyst at Birinyi, "People get upset about these things and they sell their stocks."

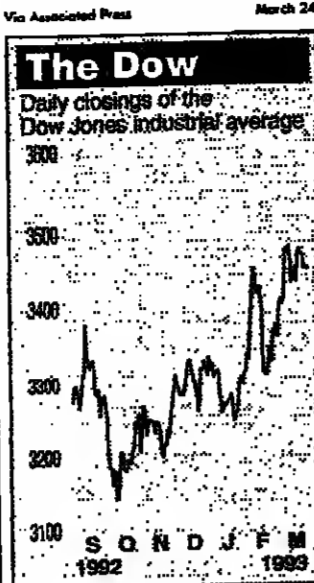


Table of NYSE Most Active stocks including Merck, IBM, and Microsoft with their respective prices and changes.

Table of NYSE Diary showing advanced, declined, and unchanged stocks.

Table of NASDAQ Diary showing advanced, declined, and unchanged stocks.

Table of Dow Jones Averages showing Open, High, Low, and Close for various indices.

Table of Standard & Poor's Indexes showing High, Low, and Close for various sectors.

Table of NYSE Most Active stocks with columns for Vol., High, Low, and Change.

Table of NYSE Diary with columns for Advance, Decline, and Unchanged.

Table of NASDAQ Diary with columns for Advance, Decline, and Unchanged.

Table of EUROPEAN FUTURES showing High, Low, and Close for various contracts.

Table of Food futures including SUGAR (FOOD) and COFFEE (FOOD).

Table of Metals futures including ALUMINUM (High Grade) and COPPER CATHODES.

Table of Financial futures including 3-MONTH STERLING (LIFFE) and 3-MONTH EURO DOLLARS.

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Table of GERMAN GOVERNMENT BOND (LIFFE) showing High, Low, and Close.

Table of Industrials futures including GASOL (LIFFE) and U.S. DOLLAR PER METRIC TONS.

Table of Stock Indexes including COMMODITY and SPOT COMMODITIES.

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Table of SUGAR (FOOD) futures showing High, Low, and Close.

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Table of U.S. FUTURES showing High, Low, and Close.

Continental Reopens Boeing Orders

SEATTLE (Combined Dispatches)—Continental Airlines is renegotiating orders for nearly \$3 billion worth of Boeing jets after canceling \$2 billion in orders with Airbus Industrie, an airline spokesman said Tuesday.

Continental, the fifth-largest U.S. air carrier, is struggling to emerge from Chapter 11 bankruptcy proceedings. The airline announced on Tuesday it had canceled orders for 20 jets from Airbus, the European consortium that gives Seattle-based Boeing its stiffest global competition.

"We rejected the contract with Airbus as part of the bankruptcy process," a Continental spokesman, Richard Danforth, said. "We are continuing to have discussions with all aircraft manufacturers."

The airline has neither affirmed nor rejected existing contracts to buy 50 Boeing 737 jets worth about \$1.6 billion and 25 757 jets worth about \$1.3 billion, Mr. Danforth said.

U.S. Durables Up 2.2% in February

NEW YORK (NYT)—Offering fresh evidence that the economy is gaining strength, the Commerce Department reported Wednesday that orders last month for durable goods—machinery, aircraft, cars, military hardware and other expensive, long-lasting items—rose a healthy 2.2 percent, the fourth increase in the past six months.

But like most recent Government reports, this latest measure of the economy's health also suggested weaknesses that could dilute the recovery in coming months. Orders for new commercial aircraft, for example, grew up one month and down the next. In February, they rose very sharply. Excluding these aircraft, all other durable-goods orders fell by seven-tenths of 1 percent.

"It is hard to say what this mix of numbers is telling us, but they seem to be saying that the economy does not look bad," said Kathleen Menth, supervisor of the statistics in the Commerce Department.

BELGIUM: Currency Victim?

(Continued from first finance page) weekly business magazine the latest cut in German interest rates would not be the last this year. But he also restated the Bundesbank's cautious quoted Mr. Issing as warning the Bundesbank had to take a depreciation of the mark against the dollar seriously.

"Anyone urging swift interest-rate measures should be aware of the risk this involves and not give the impression long-term rates automatically recede further parallel to central-bank rates," he told Finanzisten. Mr. Issing said lower interest rates should not endanger the mark's value, adding that the German currency's depreciation against the dollar "should be taken seriously."

The mark was quoted against the dollar Wednesday at 1.6270, down from 1.6338 at the close in London on Tuesday. The Belgian franc was at 20.63 per mark in late trading, below its central ERM rate at 20.6255 per mark, and at 33.57 in the dollar.

In New York, the dollar also advanced. It closed at 1.6377 DM, up from 1.6305, at 117.53 yen, com-

pared with 115.950, and at 1.5160 Swiss francs, up from 1.5095 francs.

Economists said that Tuesday's higher-than-expected rise in inflation in Germany's North Rhine-Westphalia region decreased the likelihood of an immediate cut in key German interest rates. "The Bundesbank is in a gradual easing mode," said the chief economist at DKB International, Gerard Lyons.

Belgium's troubles have a wider resonance because it is one of the countries, along with Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Germany and France that have been identified as the first EC members to share a single currency. To qualify, they must meet tough standards on inflation, interest rates, currency stability, budget deficits and public debt.

On most counts, Belgium already does, or is predicted to meet the targets in 1996. But unless it can get its deficit and debt under control, Belgium's membership of the elite core group looks in doubt.

At the heart of the crisis is the need to make budget savings of 110 billion francs, just as the economic slowdown in Europe is eating into tax revenue and boosting spending on unemployment and other social benefits.

(Reuters, Bloomberg)

BRUSSELS: A 'Signal' to Yeltsin

(Continued from first finance page) Europe's support for efforts to introduce market-oriented reforms. He will be accompanied by the foreign ministers of Denmark, Belgium and Britain, the current, next and previous occupants of the rotating EC presidency.

Each recent American statement, Mr. van den Broek said the European mission was not to support Mr. Yeltsin personally "but for what that person represents."

Denmark and Britain, among others, also have voiced strong support for offering greater trade prospects to Russia.

(Reuters, Bloomberg)

WORLD STOCK MARKETS

Table of Amsterdam stock market including AEX, ABN, and other indices.

Table of Hong Kong stock market including Hang Seng and other indices.

Table of Brussels stock market including AEX, ABN, and other indices.

Table of Johannesburg stock market including AEX, ABN, and other indices.

Table of Sao Paulo stock market including Ibovespa and other indices.

Table of Milan stock market including ISEQ and other indices.

Table of London stock market including FTSE 100 and other indices.

Table of Zurich stock market including SMI and other indices.

Table of Toronto stock market including TSX and other indices.

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Table of Singapore stock market including SSEC and other indices.

Table of Madrid stock market including IBEX and other indices.

Table of Stockholm stock market including OMX and other indices.

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Table of CATTLE (CME) futures showing High, Low, and Close.

Table of LIVESTOCK (CME) futures showing High, Low, and Close.

Table of HOGS (CME) futures showing High, Low, and Close.

Table of PORK BELLETS (CME) futures showing High, Low, and Close.

Table of FOOD (CME) futures showing High, Low, and Close.

Table of CATTLE (CME) futures showing High, Low, and Close.

Table of LIVESTOCK (CME) futures showing High, Low, and Close.

Table of HOGS (CME) futures showing High, Low, and Close.

Table of PORK BELLETS (CME) futures showing High, Low, and Close.

Table of FOOD (CME) futures showing High, Low, and Close.

Table of SP COMP INDEX (CME) showing High, Low, and Close.

Table of STOCK INDEXES showing High, Low, and Close.

Table of COMMODITY INDEXES showing High, Low, and Close.

Table of MARKET GUIDES showing High, Low, and Close.

Table of COMMODITY INDEXES showing High, Low, and Close.

Nestlé Posts Profit Rise, Plans Capital Revamp

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches VEVEY, Switzerland — Nestlé SA reported Wednesday a 9.2 percent gain in 1992 profit and announced plans to raise capital and simplify its share structure.

The food conglomerate said consolidated net profit rose to 2.70 billion Swiss francs (\$1.78 billion), from 2.47 billion a year earlier. Sales gained 7.9 percent, to 54.5 billion francs from 50.5 billion.

Nestlé said it would raise its dividend to 23.50 francs, after paying 21.50 francs in 1991.

The company also said it would propose the creation of a single class of registered shares to replace current three-tier structure, in an effort to make its stock more attractive to institutional investors. Nestlé had announced last year that it planned to eliminate participation certificates, an increasingly unpopular category of stock.

Nestlé also said it would propose a capital increase involving the creation of 1.552 million new registered shares. Though conditions for the offer had not been set, Nestlé said the shares would be issued at below market price at the rate of one new share for every 25 registered or bearer shares currently held, and two new shares for every bearer participation certificate.

Nestlé's stock price fell following the news. The registered shares slumped 1.3 percent to 1,170 francs from 1,185 on Tuesday, while the bearer shares declined 0.8 percent to 1,170 francs and the participation certificates dropped 1.3 percent to 2,320 francs each. Analysts attributed the stock-price decline to profit-taking following the announcement of results.

"The results are good, and Nestlé's plans to introduce a single share are a very positive factor," said an analyst at Bank Julius Baer, Roger Birrer.

He said the rights issue was also in line with the market's expectations, and would not dilute the company's earnings by more than 1 percent.

Mr. Birrer added that with the introduction of a single share, the company would meet another listing requirement in the United States. Analysts expect the company to seek a U.S. listing in 1994. (AFX Reuters)

EC Clears Sony Purchase in Berlin

BRUSSELS — The EC Commission has approved the purchase of land by Sony Corp. at the Potsdamer Platz in Berlin for use as its European headquarters, the commission said Wednesday.

The land was sold to Sony by the Berlin Senate for 101.1 million Deutsche marks (\$62 million) in December 1991. The commission examined the sale to determine if the site had been sold at a fair market price, and whether state aid had been involved.

The commission said it had determined that there was no state aid involved in the sale, even though the market price of the land was estimated at between 128 million and 149.5 million DM.

Study Hails Market Gains China, and Some East Europeans, Do Well

International Herald Tribune Of all the nations in Europe and Asia struggling to throw off the burden of a state-run economy, China, Poland, the former Czechoslovakia, Hungary and Slovenia are far ahead in their potential competitiveness in world markets, according to a study scheduled for release Thursday.

The new Emerging Market Economics Report, conducted by the Lausanne-based International Institute for Management Development and the World Economic Forum of Geneva, ranks 20 countries that are moving to a market economy on a number of measures designed to judge their ability to succeed in both expanding trade and attracting investment.

Of the Big Three nations — China, India and Russia — China is well ahead of India, which has only recently begun a process of economic liberalization, while Russia is considered far behind. Not surprisingly Poland, Czechoslovakia and Hungary lead the ranks of medium-sized countries, with Ukraine in the middle and Bulgaria and Uzbekistan at the bottom of the pack. Slovenia is the clear leader of smaller countries, with Estonia and Lithuania well behind and Armenia at the bottom.

Based on criteria used in a similar 12-year-old study of competitiveness among market-oriented industrial countries, the new report focuses on what it calls the "economic challenge of the decade" — the integration of once state-planned economies in to the international market.

The issues examined to rank the different countries include: inflation, unemployment, industrial output, privatization, institution building, and political support. In addition, the sponsors — together with 20 research institutes within the countries — looked at business views from an insider's perspective.

6 Former López Associates Quit GM

DETROIT — General Motors Corp. said Wednesday that six executives who had been working with José Ignacio López de Arriortua before he left to join Volkswagen AG had also quit and were likely to follow him to VW.

Francisco Garcia, in charge of electrical purchasing, José Gutiérrez, purchasing of machinery, and Hugo Van der Auwera, purchasing of metals, had come with Mr. López to Detroit from Europe a year ago.

The three other executives, Ramón Plaza, José Alvarez and André Versteeg, are more junior, General Motors said.

GM said the departures of the six — all of whom are Europeans, as is Mr. López, who is Spanish — would not disrupt General Motors' purchasing staff.

"It was not necessarily a surprise," a GM spokeswoman, Toni Simonetti, said Tuesday.

Mr. López, who was credited with saving GM more than \$1 billion in its parts budget, left the world's biggest automaker last week, changing his mind about a new GM offer at the last minute, and is now the No. 2 executive at the German automaker.

Analysts said the departures of the six probably did not worsen the loss already felt by GM after the resignation of Mr. López. In any case, they said, the executives probably would not have been compatible with the style of a successor to the flamboyant Mr. López.

Mr. López had been credited with bringing greater efficiency, cost savings and strong profit to GM in Europe.

Analysts said the seven executives presumably possessed information about GM's product plans and the prices it paid for materials and parts that would be useful in trying to reduce VW's bloated costs and determining where VW might seek market advantages.

Deutsche marks Wednesday in Frankfurt to close at 303.40 DM (\$185.88) a share.

John F. Smith Jr., GM's chief executive, said Tuesday that he expected to name a replacement for Mr. López by April 5, when GM's board has its regular monthly meeting in New York. (APX, AFP, NYT)

Veba Hit By Slide in Chemicals

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches DUESSELDORF — Veba AG, the German energy and chemicals conglomerate, said Wednesday that its group net profit had fallen 14.7 percent to 1.04 billion Deutsche marks (\$636.8 million) in 1992.

Chairman Klaus Piltz, featuring another rough year in chemicals, said "our aim for business in 1993 will be to prevent a fall in profit."

He declined to make predictions about 1993 but said that the profit situation in the first two months led him to believe that the company could avoid a further drop.

Veba also said that group sales rose 9.9 percent to 65.4 billion DM and that it would propose an unchanged dividend of 12 DM for 1992.

The company said that it aimed to shed close to 4,000 jobs in its chemical operations by the end of 1994. "Depressed worldwide chemical demand is forcing our hand," Mr. Piltz said. "We shall try our best to make sure the performance in our chemical units doesn't deteriorate any further. But we know it's a tough goal to reach."

Mr. Piltz said the company planned to invest 7.3 billion DM in 1993, unchanged from 1992. This would include investment in Veba's mobile-telephone business.

He also noted that Veba would focus on expanding business in Eastern Germany in 1993. He said that the company planned to invest a total of 8.4 billion DM in the area over the next five years. Total investment over that period would total 31 billion DM. (Bloomberg, AFX)

Investor's Europe

Table with columns for Frankfurt DAX, London FTSE 100 Index, Paris CAC 40, and various stock indices with their respective values and changes.

Very briefly:

- Lesmo PLC, the British oil company, suffered a loss of £35 million...
EIF Aquitaine, the French oil concern, said its group net profit fell 36.7 percent to 6.2 billion French francs...
Siemens Nixdorf sales dropped 6 percent to 4.5 billion Deutsche marks...
Volvo AB said it would discuss the possibility of raising its level of permitted share capital to a range between 1.9 billion kronor...
Kingfisher PLC said pre-tax profit fell 7 percent to £10.9 million for the financial year ended Jan. 30.

INTERNATIONAL FUNDS

Large table listing various international funds, their managers, and performance data. Includes sub-sections like 'ADVERTISMENT', 'INTERNATIONAL FUNDS', and 'Other Funds'.

NYSE

Wednesday's Closing

Tables include the nationwide price up to the closing on Wall Street and do not reflect late trades elsewhere. Via The Associated Press

12 Month	High	Low	Stock	Div	Yld	PE	18Mo	High	Low	Lowest Offer
100	100.00	99.00	DOW JONES			13.5		100.00	99.00	
100	100.00	99.00	DOW JONES			13.5		100.00	99.00	

12 Month	High	Low	Stock	Div	Yld	PE	18Mo	High	Low	Lowest Offer
100	100.00	99.00	DOW JONES			13.5		100.00	99.00	

DAIMLER: First German Share Sale in U.S.

(Continued from page 1)

listed in Frankfurt, 379, as German shares. Even fewer German companies, 41 as of last year, have issued shares abroad. Daimler-Benz was listed in Switzerland as early as 1976, but not in London or Tokyo until 1990.

In the United States, investors interested in German companies have had to make do with American depositary receipts. These require issuers to conform to U.S. accounting standards, but they enjoy substantially less liquidity than listed shares.

Rüdiger von Rosen, chairman of Deutsche Börse AG, the umbrella for Germany's eight regional stock exchanges, once noted that stock of Mexico's telephone company, which conforms with U.S. accounting standards, enjoyed greater recognition in New York than the biggest German companies, which are much larger.

Analysts were split over whether Daimler-Benz would be the first of many German companies to seek a listing in New York.

Jens Wieling, an institutional advisor at Merck, Finck & Co., called the financial needs of Daimler-Benz an "extreme situation" that was not representative for the rest of corporate Germany. On the other hand, it is no secret that several other large German companies, especially chemical companies, are seeking a broad international shareholder base.

"People will be more willing to make compromises on both sides now," Mr. Wieling said.

A spokesman for Hoechst AG, one of Ger-

many's big three chemical companies, said its decision to list shares in Tokyo last year had been understood as "a step toward a listing in New York." But Hoechst and many other German companies, at least until Wednesday, had been holding out for American recognition of German accounting standards, he said.

A spokesman for a large German bank, meanwhile, said the accounting changes that have made it possible for Daimler-Benz to list in the United States would not apply to banks, which would like to be listed in New York.

Deutsche Bank AG, for example, holds around 25 percent of Daimler-Benz and would also like to broaden its international shareholder base.

"The German financial system knows it has to bend a little bit if it is to develop its role as a significant financial center," said Richard Reid, a senior economist at UBS Phillips & Drew.

Daimler-Benz is the parent company of Mercedes-Benz AG, well known for its automobiles and trucks, and has diversified over the last several years into fields such as electrical engineering, rail technology, financial services and aerospace.

Steel Workers March

German steel workers in the industrial Ruhr area have started a march to Bonn to protest sweeping job cuts, Reuters reported from Dortmund, Germany.

IG Metall, the metal workers' union that organized the march, said that about 75,000 people were expected to attend a rally in Bonn on Friday to protest huge job cutbacks.

12 Month	High	Low	Stock	Div	Yld	PE	18Mo	High	Low	Lowest Offer
100	100.00	99.00	DOW JONES			13.5		100.00	99.00	
100	100.00	99.00	DOW JONES			13.5		100.00	99.00	
100	100.00	99.00	DOW JONES			13.5		100.00	99.00	
100	100.00	99.00	DOW JONES			13.5		100.00	99.00	

12 Month	High	Low	Stock	Div	Yld	PE	18Mo	High	Low	Lowest Offer
100	100.00	99.00	DOW JONES			13.5		100.00	99.00	

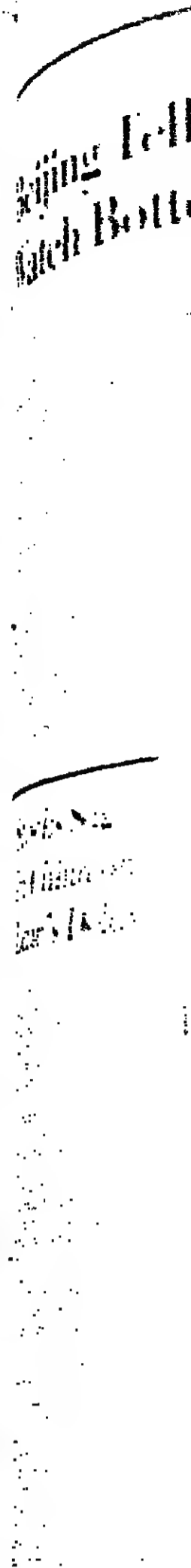
12 Month	High	Low	Stock	Div	Yld	PE	18Mo	High	Low	Lowest Offer
100	100.00	99.00	DOW JONES			13.5		100.00	99.00	

12 Month	High	Low	Stock	Div	Yld	PE	18Mo	High	Low	Lowest Offer
100	100.00	99.00	DOW JONES			13.5		100.00	99.00	

12 Month	High	Low	Stock	Div	Yld	PE	18Mo	High	Low	Lowest Offer
100	100.00	99.00	DOW JONES			13.5		100.00	99.00	

12 Month	High	Low	Stock	Div	Yld	PE	18Mo	High	Low	Lowest Offer
100	100.00	99.00	DOW JONES			13.5		100.00	99.00	

12 Month	High	Low	Stock	Div	Yld	PE	18Mo	High	Low	Lowest Offer
100	100.00	99.00	DOW JONES			13.5		100.00	99.00	



Beijing Tells Banks: Watch Bottom Line

BEIJING — China, tired of the costs of bailing out state industry, will cut loans to unprofitable enterprises and turn its banks into commercial operations, a central bank official said Wednesday.

Stocks Sag In China on Law's Delay

HONG KONG — Gloom descended over China's two bourses Wednesday on news that the country's first-ever securities law may not be ready until next year.

government was considering two strategies to shake up the banking sector, which is one of the biggest obstacles to any hopes Beijing has of creating a market economy.

One possibility was to set up new banks responsible exclusively for "policy loans" directed by the government to areas such as transportation infrastructure and developing new energy sources.

Either way, Mr. Zhou said, after this change, state banks would be thrust into the marketplace and would not be able to write unlimited checks to industry.

"We will not subsidize operational losses suffered by enterprises because of their low efficiency," he said. But Western economists warned that changing an entrenched system of subsidies, buttressed by officials at a local level who can pull rank on bank managers and demand fresh loans, would not occur overnight.

Last year, state banks ignored ceilings imposed by Beijing and doled out twice their lending quotas. Much of the money went to produce unsalable goods.

Bank loans have been targeted to increase at almost the same rate as last year, but Mr. Zhou insisted that the central bank would not allow the target to be breached.

Chips Down, but Share Up? How Japan Reached the Magic 20% Level

TOKYO — Something doesn't quite compute about recent market share figures showing foreign companies making huge inroads into Japan's \$21 billion semiconductor market.

On Saturday, Japan was spared a trade brawl with the United States when Washington reported that foreign-made semiconductor chips — primarily from the United States — had a 20.2 percent share of the Japanese market in the last quarter of 1992.

That marked a leap of more than four percentage points from 15.9 percent just the quarter before — a leap that came just before a deadline that was set by the U.S.-Japan Semiconductor Trade Agreement of 1991. The number surprised even the most optimistic foreign semiconductor makers in Japan.

"While our sales and share in the Japanese market have been slowly increasing, there has not been any dramatic jump as the government share figures suggest," said Miyuki Ochi, a spokeswoman for the American company Motorola Inc., the world's fifth-largest semiconductor maker.

Trade bureaucrats in Tokyo and Washington were quick to toast the news as a dramatic breakthrough. But it may not have been anything so dramatic.

For one thing, Japan's chip market shrank last year, so the foreign share was made larger without any increase in sales. In fact, sales by foreign semiconductor companies in Japan actually dropped 1 percent, to \$3.1 billion, according to Datquest Inc., a market research firm.

Another reason for the bulge in market share was pressure on Japanese electronics and computer companies from the Ministry of International Trade and Industry to buy more foreign chips, executives of both American-based and Japanese chip-makers in Tokyo said.

This all means the sudden market-share gain by foreigners could be short-lived. There are already signs that Japan's financial bureaucrats are backing away from the 20 percent target outlined in the U.S.-Japanese chip deal, which expires in 1996.

"The 20 percent share is a target in try to reach, not a commitment," the MITI minister, Yoshiro Mori, said at a news conference in Tokyo on Tuesday.

While the foreign market share not reached 20 percent, the issue would have clouded Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa's talks with President Bill Clinton in Washington next month, and either side would have welcomed that.

"There is a sense that the 20 percent share wasn't determined by market forces," a spokesman for the U.S. Embassy conceded. "But back in 1986, when the United States only had about 8 percent of the market, there was a sense that this figure wasn't determined by market forces either."

Seoul Plans To Put Lid On Prices

SEOUL — The government plans to control prices of 20 daily necessities, including private and public services fees, to help control inflation, Lee Kyung Shik, deputy premier and economic planning minister, said Wednesday.

Mr. Lee said the items affected would include staple foodstuffs and commodities, some fuel items, bus fares and electricity prices.

He said consumer prices had risen 2.7 percent by March 15 from the end of 1992, compared with a forecast rise of only 4 percent to 5 percent for the year.

Five economic organizations, led by the Korean Chamber of Commerce and Industry, announced that "joint efforts" would be made to freeze prices of all manufactured goods for one year in support of President Kim Young Sam's plan to boost the economy.

In the stock market, prices closed mixed in a continued recession of their recent rally, brokers said. Turnover remained light.

Several brokers said a one-percentage-point cut in South Korea's key interest rate that was announced Wednesday had already been factored into stock prices.

The composite index fell 0.29 of a point to 666.66, with an estimated 27.7 million shares traded.

But some said they had seen renewed buying interest in large-capitalization companies with heavy debt loads.

POSCO closed 100 won higher at 21,000 won (\$26.48) a share, while KEPCO was steady at 18,100.

Some movement also came from the president said he would focus on measures to boost growth. His remark was interpreted as meaning that measures that would be unpopular with investors may be delayed, brokers said.

Traders said stocks appeared likely to edge up further Thursday on increased liquidity, though volume was expected to remain thin.

Investor's Asia

Table with columns for Hong Kong Hang Seng, Singapore Straits Times, Tokyo Nikkei 225, Sydney All Ordinaries, etc. Includes a line graph showing market trends.

Very briefly:

- JHN Oil Operating Co., a Japanese consortium, will start production of crude oil in August at its Pearl River Basin concession off southern China, with a Chinese state oil company, the consortium said.
Japanese vehicle production in February, including mini vehicles, fell 1.2 percent from a year ago to 1,043,202 units, the fifth straight month of year-on-year decline, the Japan Automobile Manufacturers Association said.

RECOVERY: Signs Multiply That Japan's Recession Is Bottoming Out

(Continued from first finance page) economy may finally be reaching its low point, the two most closely watched measures of the money supply increased last week after several months of decline.

"Investors are going to spend this week adjusting to the bad news," said Richard Wong, a China analyst at Wardley Investment Services.

"We'll see some more selective buying next week once investors have discounted all this," Li Yining, head of a 14-member committee that has so far produced four drafts of a Chinese securities law, said that the anxiously awaited regulations would probably not go into effect until next year.

Investors had been hoping the law would be presented at the National People's Congress, China's parliament, currently meeting in Beijing, brokers said.

Still, those indicators hardly add up to a solid rebound, and more unpleasant developments surely lie ahead.

Japanese companies appear far from completing a much-needed trimming of excess labor supply and plant capacity. If a number of big companies follow the lead of Nissan Motor Co., which shocked the nation last month by closing a major auto factory, the economy could resume its downward spiral simply because of the effect on psychology.

Even optimists tend to believe the recovery will proceed very slowly, with growth of 3 percent starting only in the final quarter of 1993 or the first quarter of 1994. In any event, the government appears

wrong with the economy is what might happen to consumer sentiment," said James Vestal, chief economist at Barclays de Zoete Wedd Securities (Japan) Ltd. Consumption accounts for three-fifths of gross national product, so a fresh blow to confidence could abort a recovery.

Government officials hope to unveil their stimulus plan before Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa visits Washington in April.

U.S. officials have pressed Japan to boost domestic demand. The sharp slowdown in spending by Japanese consumers and businesses over the past year has reduced Japan's appetite for foreign goods, threatening to dampen global growth.

determined to make sure the economy does not "double dip" into a new slump.

Government officials hope to unveil their stimulus plan before Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa visits Washington in April.

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HONG KONG: The Jardine Group Is Charting a Course for China Despite a Colonial Past That Mars Ties With Beijing

(Continued from first finance page) in the middle of the Sino-British dispute?

"Of course, Jardine would like more business in China, and they have a lot to offer, but it has been the slowest to invest in China. It has largely diversified into the west and Asia instead," said

Cathy Carney, an analyst with Pierson Securities.

The past is often cited to predict a cautious stance on direct and indirect exposure to China.

Jardine is unlikely, or unable, to move too quickly into China.

Most large Hong Kong groups have outgrown the colony's small market and invested overseas.

have to still be a lot of old memories around in China," Jardine Matheson was the first Hong Kong company to shift to Bermuda.

Recent news that Mercedes Benz chose another partner, Hong Kong-based Lei Shing Hong Ltd., for a franchise in Shanghai and several northern provinces over Jardine International Motors, a

current partner in Hong Kong and southern China, heightened speculation that Beijing's ire would cost Jardine in missed opportunities.

Some observers say the group's recent move to boost its stake in Britain's Trafalgar House PLC; its expansion in restaurants and supermarkets in Australia; its investments in Singapore's Cycle & Car-

riage Ltd. and Cold Storage retail chain, all reinforce the notion that Jardine is offing an escape hatch should Hong Kong's 1997 return to China go awry.

Others are more confident. "There is the perception around that they are a hong on the way out that they won't prosper under Chi-

na," said Archie Hart, head of Crosby Securities' Hong Kong research. "But people lose track of the group's long business history in China. Dairy Farm signed the joint venture there in 1980 and they have many businesses up and running there. If any foreign company is going to do well in China, why not Jardine eventually?"

NYSE

Wednesday's Closing Tables include the nationwide prices up to the closing on Wall Street and do not reflect late trades elsewhere. Via The Associated Press

NYSE High-Lows table with columns for 12 Month High, Low, Last, etc. Lists various stocks and their price movements.

NYSE High-Lows table with columns for 12 Month High, Low, Last, etc. Lists various stocks and their price movements.

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High Technology & Profitability FOR THE 21st CENTURY Hong Kong, May 17-18, 1993. A major international conference co-sponsored by the International Herald Tribune and the International Chamber of Commerce. Includes a schedule of events for May 17 and May 18, registration information, and contact details for the International Chamber of Commerce.



HIGH TECHNOLOGY

A Guide to the 21st Century

New Technologies For Better Lives, Higher Profits

Throughout the 20th century, technology has been regarded as the path toward making the world a better place. Kidney dialysis, video cameras, satellite communications — the list of technological advances that affect us every day could go on and on.

Technology has helped many people live longer, healthier, happier, more productive lives. In recent years, however, technology has taken on added importance. Rather than simply a means of improving society, it is seen more specifically as an economic tool. It is estimated that new technology is responsible for two-thirds of the increase in living standards around the world over the past 50 years, and no one seems to be saying that technology will play a lesser role in the first half of the 21st century.

Yes, producing a better cordless telephone can lead to easier, cheaper communications — a laudable goal in and of itself. But today's government and corporate leaders are betting that such technological advances can also mean more business, increased commerce, wider trade, new jobs and, ultimately, a higher quality of life.

A key example is the Clinton administration's policy paper, "Technology for America's Economic Growth," which shifts the U.S. focus on technology from maintaining a security edge during the Cold War to seeding long-range economic growth in a world of open competition and free trade. One of the cornerstones is Vice President Al Gore's call for a national fiber-optic network of "information superhighways" that would boost productivity by linking businesses, public and private institutions, government agencies, schools and homes.

The ripple effects of new technology have become global for countries, companies and consumers. We look to technology to feed, clothe, clean and cure; and to make the world a safer place for us all. The following takes a look at several general areas where technology is moving fast, focusing on specific innovations and advances.

BIOTECHNOLOGY

You don't have to be a rocket scientist — or even a biogeneticist — to know that tomatoes today often don't taste as good as they did in the good old days three or four decades ago. Growers say it is an economic fact of life, due to the change from local farming and sales to mass-market production and distribution. Many of today's producers know that if they leave their tomatoes on the vine until they are perfectly ripe for picking and eating, then there's a good chance the tomatoes will be bruised or rotten by the time they get to the shelf. But if tomatoes are picked while still green and forced to ripen in transit off the vine, they reach the shelves hard and round but relatively tasteless. It is no wonder that an estimated 80 percent of tomatoes are picked green and that so many of us complain that tomatoes just are not what they used to be.

Calgene, a company based in Davis, Calif., is hoping to use biotechnology to genetically engineer a modern tomato that looks good and tastes good, too. The decade-long project, which has cost \$20 million so far, may sow the seeds for a revolution in agriculture. Companies such as ICI, Dupont and Monsanto are watching Calgene's experiment with its so-called "Flavr-Savr" tomatoes carefully; if it is successful, there is bound to be big interest and investment in other biogenetic programs to deliver tasty fresh produce even out of season.

More than 100 crops, such as cereals that can withstand drought and cotton that is immune to weevils, reportedly are undergoing field tests in America and Europe. Zeneca, the biotechnology arm of the newly reorganized ICI, is competing with Calgene to produce the perfect tomato, but is also working on applying the same genetic-engineering principles to soft fruit such as melons, peaches, plums and berries, along with vegetables such as cucumber and squash. Obviously, the less of this food that is lost to spoilage, the more people it will feed at lower costs.

Genetic engineering is, in effect, tinkering with nature through manipulation of recombinant DNA, the so-called building blocks of life. Scientists have found that by transplanting genes from one organism to another, the second organism sometimes can take on, and flourish with, the characteristics from the transplanted gene.

The principal advantage over traditional plant breeding is that it can be done so quickly. Instead of splicing two related plants together and waiting to see how it grows and how its seeds grow, biogeneticists can develop new varieties in weeks, with much more accurate assessments of a plant's long-range capabilities. And plants do not need to be as closely related as in traditional splicing; a pest-resistant gene from an unrelated strain can easily be introduced to the existing genes in another strain.

In the end, unlike so many other aspects of science, it will be everyday shoppers — and their tastebuds — that decide what works and what does not work in the world of biotechnology.

NEW MATERIALS AND COMPOSITES

Advanced materials seems a subject beyond the ken of most people. After all, it is the stuff of science fiction — paint that makes giant bombers "invisible" to radar, ceramics that are stronger and withstand heat better than any metal, ultra-light fibers that can contract like muscles and literally act as a second skin for astronauts, and composites that move bits of information and electronic impulses at speeds much faster than old-fashioned silicon.

In truth, new materials have had a remarkable impact on everyday life in recent years. Fillings for teeth are lighter, stronger and — most amazing of all — pearly-

tooth white instead of gunmetal gray. Similarly, advances in artificial joints have brought mobility and added years of productive life to millions.

In sports alone, the progress is amazing. In tennis, new composites mean that aging backers can buy a new racket and beat their children for a couple of more years. And that Jennifer Capriati probably will not suffer the physical toll that cut short the careers of earlier teen prodigies who blew out their elbows and shoulders playing with wood or metal rackets. In golf, graphite composites mean that Jack Nicklaus, and the rest of us, can keep hitting the ball as long — or short — as we did as youngsters.

But the advanced materials industry is not what it once was, and it certainly is not what many thought it would be only a few years ago. After a flurry of investment by

major companies on both sides of the Atlantic in the late 1980s, many have cut back their efforts. For ICI, it was a combination of the global recession and the realization that the anticipated mass markets simply were not there for many advanced materials.

One aspect of the industry that is growing, however, involves new applications of old materials, or rather old materials that have become advanced because they are in a new form. At universities and private laboratories in both North America and Europe, scientists are experimenting with new types of diamond coatings. Still the hardest substance known to man, diamond coatings could prolong the life and uses of a wide variety of drills, cogs, pistons, cams, ceramics, turbine blades and other hard components that get heavy wear. Typically, dia-

mond coatings are created by heating hydrogen and methane so that carbon is released; if the temperature is maintained at 800 degrees Centigrade, the form of carbon released is a diamond film.

The scientists, who say it takes all day to produce only a few microns (half of one-thousandth of a millimeter) of diamond coating, say the process could ultimately lead to diamond films combining with impurities such as boron to produce even faster computer chips.

MEDICAL EQUIPMENT AND PROCEDURES

Much of science has always been aimed at shedding

Continued on Page 17

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ADVERTISING SECTION

Investors' Best Bet: Flourishing 'Intelligent' Services

That cutting-edge technologies are needed to make manufacturing sectors competitive became widely recognized in the past decade. As the 21st century approaches, it has become clear that providing services which apply these technologies to reduce costs and to increase output is more likely to produce profits than simply manufacturing high-technology products would.

Called "intelligent," "integrated" or "high-tech" services, they are provided by small, newly founded companies or by subsidiaries of major manufacturers and operators of national infrastructure systems.

The computer industry is one example. The last three years have not been kind to the world's computer systems manufacturers. Even the

The secondary electricity market is profitable

few, scattered success stories — Dell, Compaq, Apple, ASI — have been faced with drastically falling unit prices and profit margins. "It is getting impossible to stay afloat selling computers and their accessories; an applied software or services component has become necessary for corporate survival," says VDI Nachrichten, the authoritative German trade weekly, commenting on the ongoing drop of 20 percent a month in retail prices for PCs in Europe during the past few months.

For the growing ranks of companies that design and manufacture computers and their various components on a contract basis, the last three years have been very good. Already generating a hefty \$39 billion in 1990 in the information-technology sector alone, electronic design and manufacturing services have been increasing in value by 6 percent per year. In the information technology sector, annual earnings of \$81 billion in contract fees are expected by 1996. More importantly, work done by these low-capital-investment, highly flexible service providers routinely generates operating margins of between 20 percent and 40 percent.

This shift in growth and profitability from manufacturing high-tech products to providing "intelligent," high-tech services cuts across technological sectors and national borders. Layoffs and red ink are endemic in the automotive manufacturing sector, but "rapid prototyping," "component quality

assessment," "factory floor logistics management" and other automotive manufacturing services aimed at salvaging the industry are flourishing in what is now a \$3 billion segment. Even in the generally profitable telecommunications equipment sector, the companies that design and manufacture individual products and systems for other producers represent the strongest and most profitable telecom activity, forecast to generate \$38 billion in 1993.

If services assisting manufacturers are thriving, services derived from infrastructure systems are positively booming. Operating a national telecommunications system is still a highly lucrative affair, as the top positions of AT&T, BT, France Telecom and DBP Telekom in their respective countries' profitability tables show.

However, these companies are now being pressed by dozens of newly founded, mostly small companies that use sophisticated message-encoding technologies to bundle hundreds or thousands of individual data, voice and fax transmissions into a single "gateway" connection. Other companies use such cutting-edge processes as satellite up-links to route truck and tanker fleets for freight forwarders while monitoring warehouses for suppliers. In doing so, these companies can avail themselves of "storage facility systems" developed by major European distributors for proprietary and third-party use.

Striking back, traditional communications systems operators such as France Telecom have entered the services contracting sector. Newly founded corporate services subsidiaries design, install and equip in-house communication systems for individual companies and even (as in the recent case of the Ukraine) entire nations. Working with leading computer-hardware producers, these operators have also set up electronic payment services (like the IBM/Telecom venture "Telecash") for the retail sector, as well as financial information and transaction networks

for the international banking community.

"Integrated services" are provided by the operators of Europe's largest systems — its regional and national power grids. Such power giants as Germany's RWE now routinely map energy-use schemes for their corporate customers on a fee basis. Similar activities are also performed in the water supply sector by France's Lyonnaise des Eaux Dumez and Compagnie Générale des Eaux, and by Great Britain's privatized water-supply authorities.

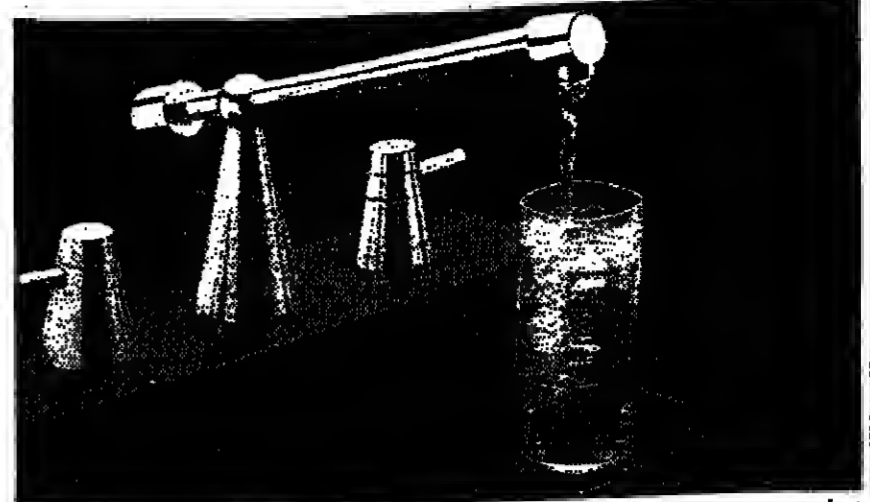
As in the telecommunications sector, private service suppliers are rushing into the "secondary electricity market." One example is a "power license" granted to billionaire commodity trader Marc Rich for the sale of electricity to very large industrial clients in England and Wales, the 45th license of its kind in Britain. By using computer-aided, off-peak wholesale power buying techniques, Mr. Rich reportedly plans to undercut current standard rates.

Profit-bungry business service companies and banks are also increasingly spinning off their expensive, proprietary expert systems and data-base capacities into what are known as "soft" or "management" services. Instead of setting up and

maintaining their own tax, invoicing and personnel systems, customers can charge such accounting giants as Deloitte & Touche with the task.

Behind each "intelligent service" is the urge to reduce costs, whether in capital, personnel, storage space or time. The striving for greater efficiency has even reached that last bastion of inefficiency and bureaucracy: city hall and its various municipal offices. A number of European communities — many of them located in Eastern Germany — now offer their residents "one-stop service" wherein a municipal staff member uses his or her PC (linked into a city office-wide network) to bundle everything from receiving building permits to protesting parking tickets. These "digitalized administrative" or "governmental" services, as they are called, are now being offered by Siemens-Nixdorf, NCR and Integrata, among other companies.

The urge to reduce costs — both the immediate ones accruing from pollutant cleanups and the long-term ones arising from lasting damage to the environment — is also behind what are rather nebulously termed "environmental services." Some \$110 billion was spent in Europe last year on cleaning up the continent's



The thirst for profit has led many high-tech companies to market "intelligent" services — such as water management.

air and water and disposing of its wastes — a figure that is expected to double by 2000. While the standard capital and systems operating components of this figure remain large — an example would be sewage-treatment facilities built and operated by public-sector authorities — the portion of third-party general and subcontracting work in this field is growing fast.

Among the young and aggressive companies flocking to the field in Europe is BC Bioclean, headquartered in the German state of Lower Saxony, which has recorded a sevenfold jump in turnover during its first

five years of operation. Its "service" is a complete water protection system using biological indicators to monitor and control water purity.

An indication of the overall size and diversity of the environmental services market is given by a catalogue recently published by Metallgesellschaft, a Frankfurt-based leader in the sector. It lists 71 individual service areas, ranging from the recycling and disposal of munitions and the installation of exhaust scrubbers to the reclaiming of lead from industrial wastes and the planning of potable water facilities.

Terry Swartzberg

The New-Old Look in High-Technology Centers

Former industrial and military sites are increasingly serving as the "seedling beds" for young, high-tech companies.

Enterprising business development authorities are employing old sites in new ways to satisfy the pressing economic needs and demands of high-tech industry in the 1990s and beyond.

This practice has been termed "real-estate recycling" by LEG (Land

Recycling sites saves time as well as money

desentwickselungsgesellschaft Nord-Rhein Westfalen mbH), one of the leaders in the field. Working for the German state of North-Rhine Westphalia (its principal shareholder) and its communities, LEG has recycled coal mines, textile factories and military barracks into centers for applied production technologies and organization, for ecological planning and construction, and for the manufacturing of advanced textiles.

The formula used by LEG and such other successful "brownfield developers" as Agence de Développement Lille and the Scottish Development Agency is based on a simple business procedure: remove those elements detracting from the site's attractiveness, capitalize on its existing amenities (a waterside location, large-scale expanse of space, the presence of historic buildings) and add whatever else is needed to attract high-tech companies to the development.

Excluded by their limited rental or purchasing power from standard real-estate markets, young companies flock to the recycled sites. There are currently 114 so-called "innovation centers" hosting 2,250 companies in Germany alone. The largest, with 100 companies, is the Köpenick neighborhood in East Berlin.

In Central and Eastern Europe, the prime source of sites to be recycled is military facilities. Russia and Ukraine have recently formulated sweeping development plans for such facilities — Ukraine's involve a detailed program of incentives and 1,000 sites — and newly founded companies in Slovakia and the Czech Republic are currently engaged in a form of "do-it-yourself" development, whereby manufacturers undertake contract work for West European capital goods, automotive, sports and computer companies have set up shop on the sprawling grounds of Martin Trust, located in northern Slovakia, which was the largest non-Soviet defense industry complex in the former East bloc.

Logically enough, elsewhere in Europe, it is the areas with the longest industrial traditions, such as Scotland, which have pioneered the use of "brownfield" sites for technology parks. The success of the Glasgow East End Park, launched in 1985 by the Scottish Development Agency, has led the agency to set up "enterprise zones" in other industrial areas, such as the Ravenscraig steel plant.

"For the last decade, the founding of technology and new business parks has been one of the most popular tools of local and regional development plans," states Rolf Sternberg, technology expert. The spread of these parks has now taken place in all of Western Europe (especially Britain, France, the Netherlands, Germany and Spain) and, increasingly, Eastern Europe.

One incalculable advantage in an age of ever-stricter zoning regulations and ever-longer approval processes: industrial and commercial use is already authorized for these sites. "And that's something that is getting harder and harder to find in Europe these days," says Lothar Späth, Mr. Späth, a main architect of the German state of Baden-Württemberg's rise to technological prominence, is now chairman of Jenoptik, located in Jena, Thuringia. Mr. Späth and his coworkers have facilitated the founding of dozens of new, high-tech companies in the sprawling facilities of the former Carl Zeiss Jena Kombinat (vertically integrated holding company).

T.S.

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New Technologies for Better Lives, Higher Profits

Continued from Page 15

light on human illness and disease. That has never been more true than it is today, and literally so in the case of new photodynamic therapy that relies on lasers and other forms of light-based treatment. A Canadian company, Quadra Logic Technologies, is teaming up with American Cyanamid, the U.S. chemical giant, in developing light-based cancer therapy. The treatment relies on a new drug, Photofrin, that is administered to patients and collects in tumors and other cancerous tissue. Low-power laser illuminations combine with the drug to create "free radical" oxygen that kills the cancerous cells without harming the surrounding healthy tissue.

Quadra Logic and American Cyanamid's plans for eventually marketing the treatment worldwide has spurred other companies to develop their own light-based therapies, including Ciba-Geigy of Switzerland and Scotia Pharmaceuticals of Britain. Doctors say the big advantage of light-based therapy is that it wipes out all the cancer. Surgery, on the other hand, typically leaves behind microscopic bits of cancer that can begin growing again and mean more costly treatment for the patient in future years. The disadvantage is the high cost of using lasers, but new laser technology — such as the solid-state diode laser that McDonnell Douglas is working on — could bring costs down sharply. And doctors at the Royal London Hospital believe that the therapy ultimately may evolve so that it works with intense non-laser light sources. Someday, they hope, the technique could be used for conditions as varied as psoriasis and AIDS.

ROBOTICS

Robots long have been seen as the ultimate in convenience for humans. The days when a pleasant mechanical maid cleans our houses still appear to be well in the future, but robots increasingly go where no human darts to go — into intense heat, bitter cold, disease or radiation contamination, outer space and the ocean floor. Around the world, oceanographers are building deep-sea robots that will not only search for wrecks and bring back treasure, but also collect data from what has been called the planet's last, largest and most mysterious frontier. Robots will assemble biologic, geologic and chemical information that can monitor the health of the planet: predicting earthquakes and volcanic eruptions, policing contamination and even helping to forecast the weather. It is very likely that an undersea robot will sound the first alarm if and when radiation begins to leak from the estimated 75 nuclear warheads lost or dumped on the ocean floor. Robotics technology will probably have even more impact on work that humans can do but don't want to do — at least not for the lower costs that robots make possible, particularly on assembly lines. But modern engineering has moved far beyond the novelty of machines with

simple "arms" doing repetitive factory work. Many robotics systems now have "brains" too, thanks to computers and artificial intelligence. An example is the robots that wash railway platforms; their computer controls rely on information from gyroscopes and ultrasonic sensors, and they hum up and down the platforms without falling onto the tracks, crashing into columns or knocking over waiting passengers.

An example of the new ways of melding computers and robotics is "drop-let-based manufacturing," which promises to have great impact on the production of metals, pharmaceuticals, ceramics and other substances. Developed at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology with funding help from various U.S. companies in various industrial sectors, it is a computer-driven system for creating droplets of identical size and shape.

This uniformity allows manufacturers a low-cost means of achieving the properties they need — strength, flexibility, resistance to heat, etc. — through control of the microstructure of materials. By using computer robotics to create microscopic droplets of liquid steel, for example, metal manufacturers get a higher-quality product. Instead of being forced to repeat the manufacturing process several times when the droplets are too different, manufacturers can now be assured of even, uniform galvanizing on the first attempt. Similarly, uniform droplets are important in the drug industry, where oral medicines with a time-release feature must be made of granules of the same size to make sure the medicine activates on schedule.

MIT is now refining the process to regulate not only the size of droplets, but how and where they are deposited in the manufacturing process. Computer-controlled patterns put onto a computer disk, often too small to be seen without a microscope, could be used to direct robotic equipment to do design work. The professors working on this project believe it may someday allow manufacturers of, say, electrical circuit boards, to switch the production process from one design to another at a keystroke.

SILICON CHIPS

Smaller, faster, cheaper — there is no secret about what makes new chips "hot" in the semiconductor industry. It is also no secret that the biggest silicon advance of the 1980s, and perhaps the biggest prospective growth market for the 1990s, is "flash memory." Flash memory chips, unlike RAM (random access memory) chips, retain the data stored on them when a computer's power is turned off. Because the data is stored on the chips rather than dumped into disk-drive storage, a system using flash memory is much faster — delivering read-write times in nano-

seconds rather than the current milliseconds.

In a reversal of the common trend in recent decades, flash memory was developed by a Japanese company, Toshiba, but was improved by an American company, Intel, with new design and fabrication methods. Intel controls about 85 percent of the \$100 million annual flash-memory market that has been quadrupling annually and should top \$1 billion by 1995.

Intel, which is introducing a "flash card" of chips that is half the size of a credit card but has the power of a typical PC hard-disk drive weighing two pounds, believes flash memory eventually will be used in cameras, fax machines and electronic pocket diaries.

In general terms, the semiconductor industry has been heartened by reassurances from the Clinton administration that it will continue funding for Sematech, the research consortium that for the past five years has received half its funding from individual companies and the other half from the Pentagon's Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency.

The White House is also prepared to take a hard line against Japan — maybe to the point of trade sanctions — for alleged bias against U.S. chip manufacturers, who claim that Japanese trade protectionism is keeping them out of the lucrative Japanese market.

TELECOM

Telecommunications is where different technologies seem, at least to the consuming public, to be coming together the fastest. It is certainly one of the biggest and fastest-growing world markets. The International Chamber of Commerce said in a recent position paper: "Rapid technological innovation in switching, transmission and related computer processing functions make a growing variety of services and facilities possible, and at a declining real cost, just as global trends in international commerce are creating a huge, almost insatiable demand for communications services. The push of technological change combined with the pull of market demand are exerting tremendous pressures on decision makers to reassess the traditional structures and rules for delivery of telecommunications services."

Some of the keener worldwide competition is in the field of mobile telecommunications. In Europe, for example, the marketing battle lines are being drawn for so-called personal communicators. Olivetti recently bought a stake in Eo Inc. of Mountain View, Calif. in order to start marketing the firm's personal communicators — small, hand-held devices — in Europe this summer.

By that time, Apple Computer Inc. also hopes to be in the European market with its version of the

personal communicator, which aims to be smaller than today's "notebook" computers and friendlier to use, with easy communications via telephone or cellular connections. Olivetti believes the potential market is 40 million users in Europe for the new product, which would put them in the mass-market league of products such as cellular phones and fax machines.

Satellite networks for mobile phones are seen as another huge potential market in Europe, and several systems — some offered by individual companies, others by consortia — have been announced.

Motorola is going it alone on an ambitious scale. Its subsidiary Iridium is spending \$3.2 billion on a 77-satellite network that would allow customers to use pocket-sized cordless telephones to make and receive calls anywhere on the face of the globe. The planned 48-satellite Globalstar network, on the other hand, is being spearheaded by an American competitor, Loral Corp., with design, development and production backing from both U.S. and European allies, including Aerospatiale, Alcatel and Alenia.

Satellite networks, used for voice, messaging and tracking, are sure to make it easier to locate and communicate with remote Third World villages, ships at sea and relief workers at disaster scenes. What remains to be seen is what roadblocks governments will throw in the path of the satellite phone systems, whether customers are willing to pay for the expected higher operating costs of such networks and how many of the proposed systems can survive the stiff competition.

In mass communications, new digital technologies (more versatile) the new

ogy and HDTV (High-Definition Television) promise to revolutionize the way we receive news and entertainment at home. Along the way, new products, from television sets that offer extraordinarily sharp images to the new higher-tech models of VCRs and camcorders (lighter, more powerful, more versatile) the new TVs will require, promise to do much to maintain employment at the electronics factories producing them.

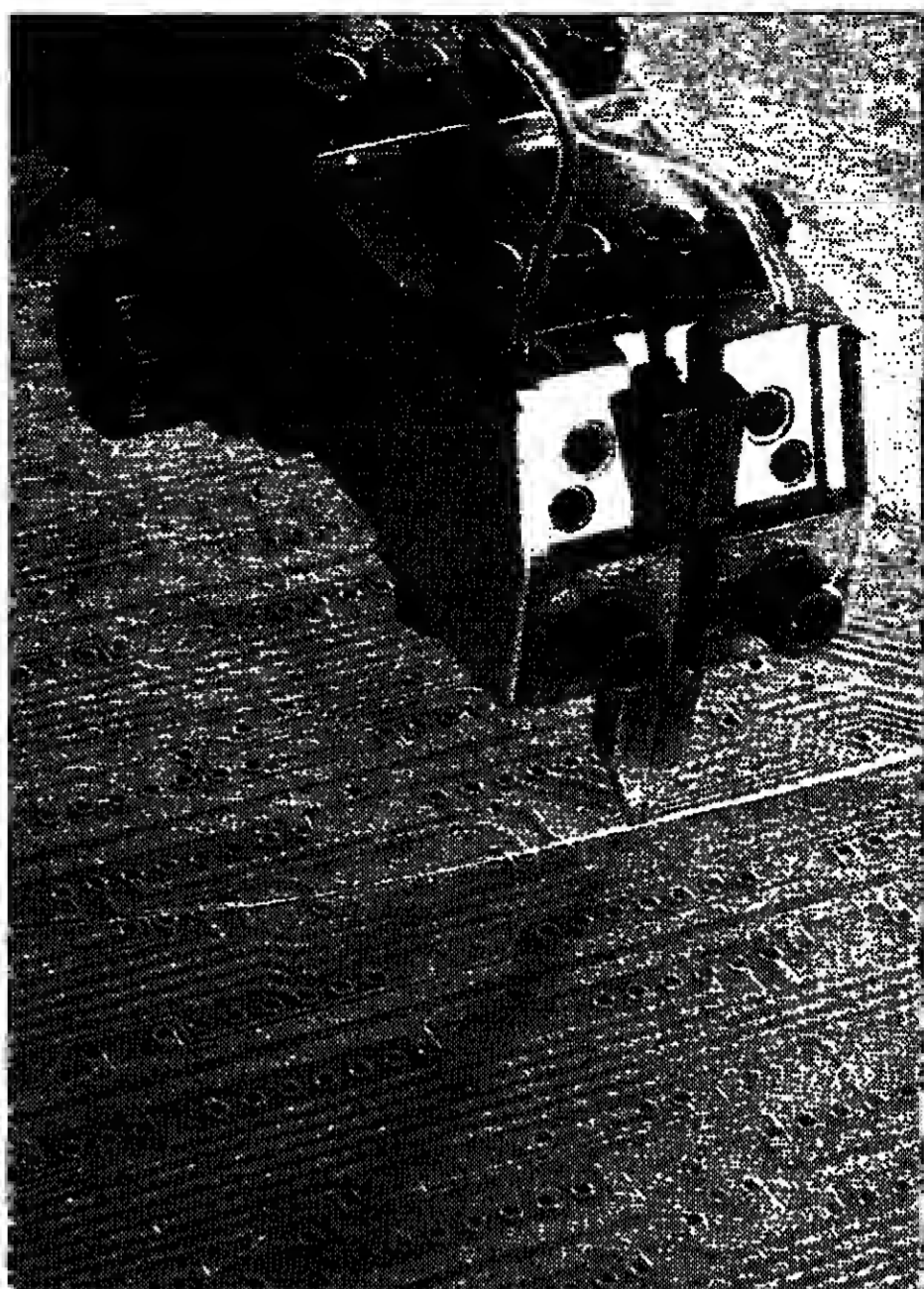
COMPUTERS

But can they think? Will they ever be able to? Well, some computers, with the right kind of software, can think now. Sort of.

One of the prime examples is a computer system based on "neural" software, so named for the information-processing "neurons" that are layered in such a way as to receive information both from outside and from other neurons to recognize, evaluate or recommend in much the same way that the human brain gathers and assesses information.

A small British firm, Neural Technologies, believes such systems will soon be used for a variety of practical purposes: handwriting and face recognition; sales and stock-market analysis, credit checks, trend detection, fault analysis, industrial efficiency and data evaluation for marketing programs.

Since data can be gathered and evaluated in much the same manner as any of the five human senses, neural computer systems can tell when truck wheels are out of balance and know when a building is getting too hot and order the air conditioning turned on. A wine-tasting program is being developed, and a credit-



A welded circuit: en route to the 21st century.

card company wants one that will ring alarm bells — and trigger a check to make sure the card has not been stolen — when a customer's charging patterns suddenly change.

One device that some big technology companies are counting on for big sales is the new pocket-sized "personal communicators" that are part telephone, part electronic organizer, part PC and part fax machine — all in a

hand-held device that can let you talk to anyone, anywhere and see him or her live and in color via a good sharp picture on your little screen.

In the workplace computing market, the bot players — some would call them the emerging giants — in the computer world are two American companies that have grown fast: Intel and Microsoft. Intel's microprocessors and Microsoft's operating sys-

tems and software have gained dominance with the rise of the PC, and now the two companies are working together to promote new industry standards for the workstations of the future, which will include computer, word processor, phone, fax, messaging system and an interactive TV that allows on-screen transmission of moving pictures from desk to desk.

Timothy Harper



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SPORTS BASEBALL

Tragedy on a Little Lake

Indians' Pitchers Sought Refuge, Found Death

By Claire Smith
New York Times Service

By Florida standards, Little Lake Nellie is indeed little, not quite what Floridians call a dollar lake—the larger, perfectly formed circular pools of fresh water resting in limestone pits all over the sun-baked state. Little Lake Nellie is not little enough to be called a weather pond, dwarfing the tiny marshes that swell only when the skies empty.

Little Lake Nellie is a small, naturally formed lake, a place that attracts the reclusive and sometimes exclusive crowds from the tonier coastal areas to the midlands, the lake lands of Florida. A place where someone forced to deal constantly with the roaring crowds might seek refuge. Which is what Tim Crews, major league pitcher, obviously sought when he purchased a ranch, complete with stables, corals and horses two months ago.

The ranch, including a stately home, overlooks Little Lake Nellie. And it was the site Crews, a native Floridian, chose to make his home. And on Monday, it was the place he chose to play host to his teammates, Steve Olin and Bobby Ojeda, and their families.

It was, after all, the team's lone day off of the spring and although far from the coastal beaches and the fun spots of Orlando, it seemed a perfect place for the young and

gifted to relax, horseback riding, sunning, fishing. Crews wasn't supposed to be anywhere close to a danger zone, let alone a killing field. Yet death is exactly what Crews and his fellow Cleveland Indians pitcher, Olin, encountered at dusk Monday night at the end of a wooden pier that jutted out into Little Lake Nellie.

The pier, which looks rickety and harmless in the light of day, was anything but on Monday when Crews inadvertently rammed his bass fishing boat into the wooden platform.

Olin, 27, died instantly. Crews, 31, lingered, but only until about 6 Tuesday morning. Ojeda, his life spared, rests in an Orlando area hospital. Florida Game & Fresh Water Fish Commission investigators have started to piece together the ways and wherefores of the tragedy.

"We have 700,000 registered boats in Florida and the highest mortality rate of any state, and we're chipping away at it," said Brian Baines, an officer with the state commission.

Crews and Olin were husbands and fathers. Each had three children; of the six, only Crews' daughter, Tricia, is older than age 4. The Cleveland Indians know that they have already spent two of what will be many days dealing with their loss and their grief, mourning for



Steve Olin, who was in spring training with the Indians, was killed along with teammate Tim Crews in the Florida boating accident.

the children left behind. Dealing with the holes left in friendships and families as well as on rosters.

And in Clermont, the residents of this small central Florida town suddenly made famous by the baseball fraternity's first multiple fatality, tried to deal with the notoriety. Steve Neese had been visiting his in-laws on the cul-de-sac of homes nestled along the shores of Little Lake Nellie. "It's not unusual to see people out there in the twilight," Neese, a recreational boater himself, said. But, Neese added, "from what I hear, they found the throttle wide open on a boat that can go 65. Cruising around at that speed in night is not a real good idea. You don't have much time to dodge things."

The signs are already obvious that other poorly thought-out decisions will paint a harsh picture of what happened. George Wilson, the commission officer in charge of the on-site investigation, said that there was a cooler on board and that it contained alcohol. "We are stressing that we cannot confirm that they were drinking," Wilson said. Still, Indians officials will wait with hopeful but sickened hearts until they know for sure the results of blood alcohol tests on Crews, who piloted the boat.

Until then, the mourning will commence in an organization all too familiar with so much going wrong in a world supposedly blessed with nothing but health, youth, good fortune and wealth. After all, the Indians were the first and only major league team to lose a player in a game, in 1920, when Ray Chapman was killed by a pitch. Herb Score, a legendary Indians pitcher, did not lose his life, but his career was all but shattered by a batted ball to the eye in 1957.

Sox Give Jackson Thumbs Up

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches
SARASOTA, Fla. — The Chicago White Sox on Wednesday canceled their option on Bo Jackson's 1993 contract, paying the player with an artificial hip \$910,000 plus incentives that could add another \$1.5 million.

"Bo has been hitting well all spring and he has made steady improvement in his running and ability to play the outfield," general manager Ron Scheuler said. "He has passed in all areas. His bat has been good all spring. His running has picked up and he is getting a jump on the ball in the outfield."

Jackson was hitting .372 with 9 RBIs in 14 spring training games. He leads the team in hits, RBI and total bases.

"The decision was in the hands of the White Sox," Jackson said. "I have never worked this hard in all my life."

"I didn't expect the kind of spring I've had. I didn't think I'd be running balls down, starting and stopping and getting from home to first in 4.3 seconds," said Jackson, who had hip replacement surgery in April 1992.

He has not played full time since injuring the hip in a playoff game for the Los Angeles Raiders in January 1991.

Also Wednesday, talks broke down between the Philadelphia Phillies and Darren Daulton over a \$18 million contract that would make Daulton the highest-paid catcher in baseball.

Recalled Bobby Hall, center, and Troy Motta, left wing, from Florida.

BOSTON—Wolfgang Matzanegger, forward, Dallas—Signed Tim Lester, forward, for remainder of season.

DETROIT—Put Mark Aquino, forward, on injured list. Activated Mark Randall, forward, from injured list.

GOLDEN STATE—Wolfgang Matzanegger, forward, and Scott Frazier, center, from Los Angeles for Mark Hartzel, forward, and Mike Hartzel, forward.

PORTLAND TRAIL—Put Kevin Duckworth, forward, on injured list. Activated Brian Smith, forward, from injured list.

NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE
BUFFALO BRUIERS—Signed Greg Paterek, tailback, Jim Gray, defensive end, and Mickey Washington, cornerback.

DETROIT—Signed Rodney Holman, tight end.

GREEN BAY—Signed Harry Garrett, tight end, and Scott Frazier, center.

MIAMI—Signed Reggie Brown and Alex Johnson, wide receivers; Kevin Robinson, tight end; Tony Stewart, center; Frankie Smith, cornerback; and Scott Frazier, center.

NEW ENGLAND—Signed Scott Landestam, punter, to 4-year contract. Signed Mark Jackson, wide receiver, to 3-year contract.

PITTSBURGH—Signed John Elway, defensive back. Pittsburgh—Signed David Vance, offensive lineman; Leslie Shepherd, wide receiver, to 1993 contract.

SAN FRANCISCO—Signed Derek Lavin, running back, and Anthony White, linebacker, to 3-year contracts. Activated Matt Ryan, tight end, from injured list.

TAMPA BAY—Signed Harry Harkness, defensive end, and Scott Frazier, center.

NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE
ANAHIM—Signed Jack Ferreira, general manager, and Pierre Gauthier, assistant general manager.

BOSTON—Signed to 3-year contract with Dan Sweeney, defenseman.

SUFFOLD—Traded Mike Rizzaro, defenseman, to Pittsburgh for Bob Errey, left wing.

EDMONTON—Traded Steve McKelvie, defenseman, to Chicago for Mike Hutzler, center.

HARTFORD—Traded Steve Kinnear, defenseman, to Detroit for 1993 third-round draft choice.

MINNESOTA—Signed Mark Osecki, defenseman, from Vancouver for 1993 fifth-round draft choice.

MONTRÉAL—Traded Eric Charan and Alain Gagnon, defensemen, to Tampa Bay for Rob Ramage, defenseman. Signed Todd Ewen, right wing, to 3-year contract.

NEW JERSEY—Signed Bobby Holm, center, to U.S. AHL on conditioning assignment.

BASKETBALL
National Basketball Association
NBA—Signed Keith Adkins, Miami Heat

SCOREBOARD

NBA Standings

Table with columns for Eastern Conference, Western Conference, and NBA Standings. Includes team names, wins, losses, and percentages.

Exhibition Results

Table with columns for Exhibition Results, including team names and scores.

CAMPBELL CONFERENCE

Table with columns for Campbell Conference, including team names and scores.

TUESDAY'S RESULTS

Table with columns for Tuesday's Results, including team names and scores.

HOCKEY

Table with columns for Hockey, including team names and scores.

WALEN CONFERENCE

Table with columns for Waleen Conference, including team names and scores.

INTERNATIONAL FRIENDLIES

Table with columns for International Friendlies, including team names and scores.

ENGLISH PREMIER LEAGUE

Table with columns for English Premier League, including team names and scores.

DENNIS THE MENACE



PEANUTS



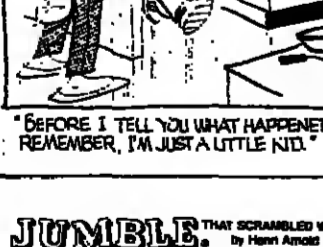
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ART BUCHWALD

Waiting for a PC Job

WASHINGTON — You can say anything you want about the Clinton administration's appointments, but they are very politically correct.



I have a friend who has been waiting for an important job. He was told three months ago he had it sewed up, but since then he hasn't heard a word.

"We're trying to be fair to everybody. That's why we're holding off on the Chinese-American appointment until we find an Italian-American woman figure skater for Arnold Schwarzenegger's job as aerobics ambassador-at-large."

"But the president told me if I quit my job as head of Dillon University that all I needed was a quick FBI check. Instead, you've kept me hanging for months."

"The president was unaware you were not a minority or a woman. He assumed there was something in your background that would give us an opportunity to put you in the slot. But your lack of ethnicity makes it difficult for us to move right now."

"So it's my understanding that I don't get an appointment until you get an Italian-American figure skater to take the aerobics job, and then a Chinese-American to get his, and then a Hispanic and a woman to fill your other positions. I don't understand what that has to do with me."

"What it has to do with you is that if we appoint you to this position they are going to ask why we didn't hire a Portuguese tuna fisherman first. People are very sensitive to who is getting what jobs, and the only way we can protect ourselves is to make sure everyone gets something."

"So how many more people do you have to appoint before I can get hired?"

"Including an Alaskan Eskimo for drug czar?"

"Of course. I would never take a job before someone from Alaska got his."

"We have 3,000 ethnic appointments to make, 600 senior citizens and 400 retired women officers from the Coast Guard. Once we know where we stand with them, you'll be right on the top of the list."

"I fought for equal opportunity when I was president of Dillon, but I never thought I'd see the day when it prevented me from getting work."

"Don't worry. The president hasn't forgotten you. I heard him say the other day, 'I need Herman Slumberg very badly. I just wish he was gay.'"

Culture Under Socialism: France's Glory or Ego Trip?

By John Rockwell

New York Times Service

PARIS — Jack Lang, the French minister of culture and the best-known Socialist politician after President Francois Mitterrand, knew even before the voters went to the polls on Sunday that he would have to give up the post that made him famous.

Ever since 1991, the 10th anniversary of his accession to cultural power, Lang and his ministry's busy publicity people have been in what might be called a defensively self-celebratory mood.

Lang's office, which he will soon have to vacate, is a gilt-laden saloon in the Palais Royal, with palatial antechambers receding into the distance.

There are 12,500 people in the Ministry of Culture's direct employ. At a time when cultural budgets throughout the world have shrunk, France has escalated steadily.

Lang owes his popularity and political longevity to his charisma and skills, but also to a deliberate decision made 12 years ago by Mitterrand to up the French cultural ante to levels unmatched in modern times.

Why this overwhelming emphasis on the arts? Cynics claim that Mitterrand has done it purely for ego, to leave his imprint in stone like some puffed-up Socialist Sun King.

and that Lang has abetted this desire like a court jester. Others have suggested that the Socialists have courted artists and intellectuals out of narrow political calculation.

Such suspicions, reinforced by a general impatience that has fueled the Socialist electoral defeat, have led to a burst of anti-Lang diatribes, chiefly two much-discussed books.

In Britain and the United States, mockery of French intellectual pretensions and of Lang's ego and sometimes flamboyant pandering to popular culture has long been in vogue.

Particularly striking are the so-called Grands Travaux, most of them in Paris and serving (often literally) as monuments to the glorie of Mitterrand, who personally inaugurated most of them.

There is more. The national music conservatory has been ensconced in glamorous new surroundings. The French film industry has been stored up, in part by encouraging private investment.

What I am most proud of, Lang said, "is having contributed to changing the spirit of the country. The minister concedes his failures, though perhaps grudgingly.



The Grande Arche: For the glory of Mitterrand?

ates: like his critic Schneider, who was a ministry official for three years.

Lang concedes that some of his decisions and actions have been controversial, but added: "I prefer provocation to indifference."

Perhaps the best tribute to Lang's accomplishments is that the opposition parties have put forward no coherent counterproposals to his policies, apart from some carping calls for austerity.

For himself, Lang leaves his options open, not precluding a run for the presidency after Mitterrand retires (a prospect that makes his detractors, those who see him as the Jerry Lewis of politics, cringe at his presumption).

PEOPLE

Eligible No More: Gates, Billionaire, to Wed

William Gates 34, 37, the founder and chairman of Microsoft and the United States' richest person (Forbes magazine says he is worth more than \$6 billion), is no longer a highly eligible bachelor.

An Australian court refused to stop a magazine from publishing photographs of the adopted baby of Tom Cruise and Nicole Kidman.

Retired General H. Norman Schwarzkopf has joined the board of the Nature Conservancy, which raises money to buy ecologically sensitive land.

A California judge has thrown out a paternity suit against Prince Albert of Monaco, ruling that he had no jurisdiction.

Washington chic: President Bill Clinton juggled for 27 minutes Wednesday from the White House to the Capitol, but his White House guest, the folksinger Judy Collins, couldn't keep up and dropped out about halfway.

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IBM Will Close New York Gallery

NEW YORK — IBM has announced plans to close its Gallery of Science and Art, the exhibition space on the lower level of its skyscraper at Madison Avenue and 56th Street, as a cost-cutting measure.

The gallery, which over the last 10 years has become one of New York's most prominent showcases for major traveling exhibitions, is to close as soon as the schedule of exhibitions to which IBM is committed runs its course, either at the end of 1993 or the beginning of 1994, said a spokesman.

Since the gallery opened in 1983, it has been averaging 500,000 to 750,000 visitors a year.

WEATHER

Weather forecast table with columns for Europe, Asia, North America, Middle East, and Oceania. Includes high/low temperatures and precipitation chances.

CROSSWORD

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across and Down. Includes a solution for the puzzle of March 21.

BOOKS

Goodall's discovery of the thriving chimpanzee termite fishing industry and the exquisitely narrow engineering tolerances necessary to manufacture the requisite tools left us as a species in urgent need of a new reason to feel, well, special.

He knew that his partner could not want a spade lead, for he had rejected an opportunity to raise that suit. The unbid diamond suit was a normal lead and could not be considered unusual.

BRIDGE



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